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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Armenian Assembly of America

(Special, 1999)

PART I. Introduction

The Armenian Assembly of America (AAA) is a non-governmental, non-partisan, non-profit national membership organization headquartered in Washington, DC, with offices in Los Angeles, Boston, and Armenia. AAA provides opportunities for the participation of Armenian-Americans in the American democratic process; conducts research, education and advocacy for the universal affirmation of the Armenian Genocide; supports the strengthening of the United States of America-Armenia relations, based on a shared vision for democracy, rule of law, open markets, regional security and unfettered commerce; promotes civil society initiatives in Armenia, encouraging free-market oriented, sustainable and responsible development; and works with other non-partisan advocacy entities and individuals in pursuit of shared goals.

PART II. Contribution of the Organization to the Work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, major conferences and other United Nations meetings

- 59th Annual DPI/NGO (United Nations Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations) Conference, United Nations, New York, 6-8 September 2006
- Forum *Genocide Then and Now: Lessons Learned for the Twenty-first Century*, co-sponsored by Armenian General Benevolent Union, Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations, and Permanent Mission of Rwanda to the United Nations, New York, 30 March 2006
- United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, 49th Session, United Nations, New York, 28 February-11 March 2005
- 58th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, United Nations, New York, 7-9 September 2005
- 57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, United Nations, New York, 8-10 September 2004
- 56th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, United Nations, New York, 8-10 September 2003
- Roundtable *Information Communication Technology: Education, Equality and Empowerment for the 21st Century*, co-sponsored by the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women and the Committee on the Status of Women of the Conference of NGOs (CONGO) in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, New York, 15 January 2003

ii. Co-sponsorship of, or other specific contributions to events

- **59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, New York, 6-8 September 2006:** Co-sponsored and moderated a workshop *Education, Youth and Technology for Sustainable Development*, jointly with the Rotary International, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the CONGO Committee on Education, Information Habitat: Where Information Lives, and the Earthwatch Institute, 7 September 2006. Under oral remarks, AAA Main United Nations representative presented the work of an Armenian NGO (Earth Charter

National Committee of Armenia) and the synopsis of a written contribution on the Charter's best practices.

- **United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 49th Session, New York, 28 February–11 March 2005:** Organized a workshop *Partnership to Empower Girls,* involving education specialists from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Government of Armenia and several women's organizations.
- **57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, New York, 8-10 September 2004:** Co-sponsored a workshop *Empowering Women Worldwide: Implications for Gender Equity,* jointly with Democracy Watch, Worldwide Network for Gender Empowerment/Fielding Graduate Institute, Institute for the Study of Global Prosperity, and NGO Committee on the Status of Women; sponsored a panelist, who spoke on gender disparity and education in Armenia.
- **56th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, New York, 8-10 September 2003:** AAA United Nations representative served as Media Chair of the Conference Planning Committee; Co-sponsored a workshop *Acting on Human Dignity and Security: From Participatory Theater to Reality on the World Stage,* jointly with the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, the National Council of Negro Women, Soroptimists International, featuring Augusto Boal, Founder, Theater of the Oppressed, Brazil. The workshop discussed the mission and activities of the Theater, a global organization dedicated to bringing art to impoverished audiences, and illustrating challenges facing the poor around the world; Worked, through the Media Chair of the Conference Planning Committee, and in partnership with the CONGO Education Committee, to organize a workshop *Media Perspectives on Human Security and Dignity*, sponsored by the CONGO Education Committee, National Council of Negro Women, Church Women United, and Sister to Sister International. The workshop featured an insider perspective on the media, and offered suggestions to NGOs on how to achieve better coverage of their issues.

iii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or agencies

AAA worked with UNESCO and the CONGO Committee on Education, to co-sponsor and moderate a workshop *Education, Youth and Technology for Sustainable Development* on 7 September 2006 (59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, New York).

AAA's United Nations representative served in the following capacities:

- Co-Chair, CONGO Committee on Education, since September 2006
- Acting Co-Chair, CONGO Committee on Education, May-September 2006
- Secretary, CONGO Committee on Education, June 2002-May 2006

Member at Large, CONGO Committee on the Status of Women: CONGO Committee on the Status of Women is a forum for the exchange of information on issues related to women, under consideration by the United Nations system. It assists in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies, the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action and the Women 2000-Beijing +5 agenda by facilitating discussion and cooperation among interested NGOs and individuals, supports the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and United Nations agencies working to improve the status of women, organizes consultation and training for NGOs

attending meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York, briefs NGOs daily during the meetings and hosts an annual reception for NGOs and governments, and sponsors awards for women diplomats, and women of achievement. Member at large is a category of officers serving on the committee.

iv. Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals

i) Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

AAA contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in Armenia and the South Caucasus, by advocating for, or otherwise contributing to the following:

Goal: Develop a Global Partnership for Development

- United States humanitarian and development assistance to Armenia, special assistance for rural infrastructure development under the United States Millennium Challenge Account, and implementation of Armenia's Poverty Reduction and Rural Development Programs;
- Equitable regional development and integration in the South Caucasus, including access to regional infrastructure and open trade;
- Channeling Diasporan experience and expertise to help Armenia address its development needs and challenges;
- Peaceful settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict;
- Establishment of an NGO Training and Resource Center in Armenia, that has since 2005 evolved into an independent entity, with programs in community development, anti-corruption, HIV/AIDS prevention, peace and stability, social transition, etc.

Goal: Ensure Environmental Sustainability: Environmental awareness and reforestation programs in Armenia through the Assembly's Armenia Tree Project.

ii) **Activities in Support of Global Principles:** AAA is a member of several United States and international NGO coalitions committed to peace and security, development, human rights, as well as fight against the denial of genocide and other crimes against humanity. AAA activities in that regard include advocacy, community activism, academic, educational and media programs, rallies, as well as regular testimonies at relevant hearings before various bodies of the United States Congress.

2. Associated Country Women of the World

(Special, 1947)

I. INTRODUCTION: The Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) is the largest international organisation for rural women and is active in over 70 countries throughout sub-Saharan Africa; Asia - Central, South, South-East, the Far East; North, Central and South America and the Caribbean; Eastern, Western and Central Europe; the South Pacific. ACWW aims to raise the living standard of women and their families through literacy, education and training; through community

development projects for income earning and for the promotion of agriculture, health, nutrition and childcare; through the elimination of discrimination and inequality of opportunity; through promotion of international cooperation and understanding. Project activity worldwide is financed from ACWW resources with occasional contributions from United Nations and development agencies.

II. CONTRIBUTION of the ORGANIZATION to the WORK of the UNITED NATIONS:

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings:

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW) - Forty-seventh session, 3-14 March 2003, United Nations Headquarters, New York, United States of America - Attended by a member of ACWW's United Nations Committee and by its New York Representative. Co-signatory to non-governmental organisation (NGO) Statements on the principal themes: 1. Participation and access of women to the media and information and communication technologies, and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women; 2. Information communication technology and older women; 3. The media and older women; 4. Violence and older women; 5. Women's human rights and the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, as defined in the Beijing Platform for Action.

Forty-eighth session, 1-12 March 2004, New York, United States - Attended by ACWW's New York Representative. Co-signatory to NGO statements on the principal themes: 1. The role of men and boys in achieving gender equality; 2. Women's equal participation in conflict prevention, management, and resolution and in post-conflict peace-building; 3. Girls' rights. **Forty-ninth session**, 28 February-11 March 2005, New York, United States - Attended by ACWW's United Nations Committee Vice-Chairman. Co-signatory to NGO statements: 1. Implementation of strategic objectives and action in the critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives; 2. Identification of gaps and remaining challenges regarding: (a) Women and poverty / Women and the economy; (b) Violence against women - trafficking. **Fiftieth session**, 27 February-7 March 2006, New York, United States - Attended by ACWW's World President and by the Chairman of the ACWW United Nations Committee. Co-signatory to NGO statements on the principal themes: 1. Enhanced participation of women in development: an enabling environment for achieving gender equality and for the advancement of women, taking into account education, health and work; 2. Equal participation of women and men in decision making processes at all levels. **ACWW participated** in NGO workshops, panels, caucuses, etc, throughout the duration of the Commission on the Status of Women. ACWW is a member of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women in New York and attended meetings on a monthly basis. ACWW was represented at regular meetings of the NGO Committees on the Status of Women in Geneva and Vienna.

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (CSD)

Forty-first session, 10-21 February 2003, United Nations Headquarters, New York, United States: Co-signatory to a statement of international NGOs on the priority theme of preparations for and observance of 10th anniversary of International Year of the Family (IYF). **Forty-second session**, 4-14 February 2004, New York, United States: Co-signatory to a statement of international NGOs on the 10th anniversary of IYF. **Forty-third session**, 9-18 February 2005, New York, United States:

Co-signatory to a Statement of international NGOs on the 10th anniversary of IYF and beyond. **Forty-fourth session**, 8-17 February 2006, New York, United States. Attended by ACWW's New York Representative. Co-signatory to NGO statements entitled "Families living in extreme poverty", and "Family issues, policies and programmes". ACWW attends regular meetings of the NGO Committees on Ageing in New York and Geneva, and meetings of the NGO Committee on the Family in New York and Vienna.

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL, First session, 19-30 June 2006, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland. Attended by ACWW's Geneva Representative. **Social Forum of the Sub-commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights**, 3-4 August 2006, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland: ACWW was one of only four NGOs invited to address the forum on the theme: "The fight against poverty and the right to participation: the role of women". ACWW's Geneva Representative gave an oral and visual presentation entitled The Face of Poverty - a Rural Woman. ACWW is a member of the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child and is represented at meetings of the Subgroup on the Human Rights Council and Working Groups Displaced Children and Children in Armed Conflict.

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP):

ACWW was represented at the following: **Sixtieth session**, 22-28 April 2004, Shanghai, China. **Sixty-first session**, 12-18 May 2005, Bangkok, Thailand. **Sixty-second session**, 6-12 April 2006, Jakarta, Indonesia. **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)**, 14-15 December 2004, Geneva, Switzerland: ECE preparatory meeting for the Ten-Year Review of the Beijing Platform for Action.

ii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialised agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO) - Consultative Status since 1949, Operational relations since 1997.

UNESCO Participation Programme: ACWW received a grant of $17,000 from UNESCO to hold a leadership and capacity-building workshop for rural women from eight countries in Southern Africa, 6-10 December 2003, Johannesburg, South Africa. ACWW was represented at these UNESCO General Conferences: **Thirty-second session**, 29 September-17 October 2003, UNESCO, Paris, France. **Thirty-third session**, 3-21 October 2005, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France. **UNESCO International Conference of NGOs**, 14-16 December 2005, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France; this event is held every two years.

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR WOMEN (UNIFEM) - Consultative status since 1989. ACWW's Representative in New York attends meetings of UNIFEM NGO Committee.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO) - Consultative Status since 1947. ACWW was represented at the **FAO Conference, 32nd session**, 29 November-10 December 2004, Rome; **FAO Council, 125th session**, 26-28 November 2004,

Rome; **FAO Committee on Agriculture, 17th session**, 31 March- 4 April 2003, Rome, and **19th session**, 13-16 April 2005, Rome. ACWW's Rome Representative attends regular meetings of the Ad Hoc Group of International NGO's Representatives to FAO. ACWW was represented by the World President at an event to observe the **Twenty-third World Food Day**, 16 October 2003, Rome.

UNITED NATIONS CHILDRENS FUND (UNICEF) Consultative Status since 1953.

ACWW is represented at meetings of the NGO Committee on UNICEF in New York and Geneva, and at the UNICEF Working Group on Girls in New York.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by this organisation in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals, which form the basis of the global agenda for the 21st century.

The Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) aims to improve the lives of women and families who live at subsistence level in rural areas. Between 2003 and 2006, ACWW funded 97 micro development projects in countries throughout sub-Saharan Africa, Asia (Central, East and South), the Caribbean, Central and South America, Eastern Europe, the South Pacific. They were sponsored by the following ACWW programmes: **Water for All** which supports clean water and sanitation projects, providing water tanks, bore wells and hand pumps; **Women Feed the World** supports subsistence food production and cooperatives, training in farming techniques and credit savings schemes; **General Projects Fund** supports literacy, family planning initiatives, HIV/AIDS awareness, small business schemes and skill training; **Nutrition Education Fund** promotes good nutrition and improved hygiene. In addition ACWW offers scholarships and courses in home economics, welfare and citizenship for leaders in rural communities. The following are examples of development projects which relate to selected Millennium Development Goals:

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger - ***Target 1: Halve between 1990 and 2015 the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day:***

Ghana, West Africa, May 2004-February 2005 - a women's farming co-operative was funded to clear and prepare land, purchase seeds, materials and equipment for the production of crops and vegetables. Seven hundred subsistence farmers benefited from an increase in food supply, and a proportion was sold at market. The proceeds enabled their children to attend school and helped to develop the project further. ACWW funded 19 other similar projects in countries throughout sub-Saharan Africa, East Asia, South America, and the South Pacific.

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases -

ACWW funded 12 projects on HIV/AIDS awareness, malaria and tuberculosis throughout sub-Saharan Africa. One example is funding the first phase (1 April to 30 November 2006) of a 3-year project in the United Republic of Tanzania training 85 girls made orphans through HIV/AIDS. An HIV/AIDS awareness programme was held to educate the girls who will then learn how to teach others in their peer groups.

Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability - ***Target 10, Halve by 2015 the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking-water and sanitation:***

ACWW funded the installation of 20 water tanks serving seven villages on the island of Tongatapu, Tonga, South Pacific. It ran one year between November 2004 and November 2005. Twenty other safe drinking water and sanitation systems were supported by ACWW throughout sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and the South Pacific.

All the above activities, and other projects, together with news from UN agencies are included in ACWW's quarterly magazine The Countrywoman.

3. Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha

(Special, 1999)

Part I: Introduction

Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha (BNPS) is an activist women organization established in 1986 by a group of committed women with a vision of establishing a society with equal rights for women, from family to state. It considers its role as a facilitator in social transformation in order to attain social justice, peace and development, free from all forms of discrimination and oppression based on gender, class, ethnic identity and religion. Its mission is: ensuring "equality through empowerment".

Level of Interventions: BNPS is working through its regular programs at three levels: grassroots, national and regional. Advocacy lobbying for policy and legal reform, policy research, documentation and publication are under the national and regional level. On the other hand, raising awareness, organizing and mobilizing people (particularly women), building a positive opinion for changing traditional mindsets, and access to resources and information, are at the local level.

Change at Physical Areas: BNPS works in the Chittagong, Sandwip, Netrakona, Dhaka, Jessore, Khulna and Mymensingh districts of Bangladesh. Due to lack of resources, it has closed down one office from Khulna in 2003. On the other hand, it has had an office at Barhatta, under district Netrokona since 2005 due to demand raised by the people there. BNPS also shifted its central office from House 255, road 19 (old), Dhanmondi, Dhaka, to House 52, Road 8A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka.

Part II: Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.

The Executive Director of BNPS as a member (who had served 5 years) attended, actively participated, and contributed in the 7th External Gender Consultative Group (EGCG) at a World Bank meeting and Millennium Development Goals Workshop, Washington DC, 15-22 November 2003. The Executive Director of BNPS participated in the United Nations organised International Conference on "Sustainable Safety: Municipalities at the Crossroad", Durban, South Africa, 22-30 November 2003 and also participated in "Jubilee South Asia/Pacific Conference on the Privatisation of Water and Power Services" in Bangkok, Thailand, 8-12 December 2003. She also attended the 49th and 50th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women meeting in New York, New York, 28 February – 11 March 2005 and 27 February – 10 March 2006 where she contributed an alternative report for Bangladesh and also attended 8 other workshops and planned meetings on

globalisation. As a founder and core committee member of South Asian Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE), the Executive Director of BNPS attended a series of meetings in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, and India for formulating policy document and advocacy, lobbying with SAARC and its member countries for increasing finance and policy reform, formulation to eradicate poverty and at least to achieve the target set by Millennium Development Goal 12 in March 2005 and from 27 Feb - 10 March 2006. She also participated in the Partner-Consultation on "Water and Democracy" hosted by Church Development Service (Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst - EED) and Church World Service (CWS) in Hyderabad, India, 4-7 October 2006 and participated in the Steering Committee Meeting on Water and Democracy on 18 November 2006. In addition, she participated in consultation meeting of CWS on the Water and Democracy Network in Hyderabad, India, 28 December 2006. Moreover she attended and contributed to the Coalition of Asian Women (CAW) Forum on "Women Workers in Areas of Armed Conflict and Under Politically Suppressive Regimes" in Bangkok Thailand, 27-24 November 2006. Aside from these events, BNPS was also involved in the World Social Forum since its beginning. The Executive Director of BNPS attended and participated its preparatory meetings for the World Social Forum in Brazil from 27 June-4 July 2004, and actively participated in the next two forums in Mumbai, India, 15-23 January 2004, and in Porto Alegre, Brazil, 26-31 January 2005. The Executive Director of BNPS presented a paper at the Regional Conference on "Development Effectiveness through Gender Mainstreaming Lessons Learnt from South Asia" in New Delhi, India, 10-12 May 2005, which was organised by United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). She also presented a paper at a symposium on "Gender and Trade Liberalisation" in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, 22-23 August 2005.

ii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters.

The involvement of BNPS within the country and regional level is more than in the international level. The organization gives priority to its efforts to grassroots level within the country. Hence the representative of the organization cannot participate in all events. Moreover, due to scarcity of funds, the representative of BNPS cannot participate in all of the events, though the organization receives invitations regularly from the United Nations Geneva office.

iii. Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals during the reporting period.

BNPS has implemented some regular programmes in Bangladesh and in South Asia which have contributed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The organization played an important role as Bangladesh's focal organization in the South Asia Association for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE) to eradicate poverty. In its role as advocator and lobbyist of countries and governments, on the behalf of SAARC, the BNPS has addressed Millennium Development Goal 1. The organization conducted several studies on the quality of primary education in Bangladesh. The studies mentioned some gender and human rights related problems along with learning systems to advocate in its curriculum (Millennium Development Goal 2). BNPS conducted studies (starting from the year 2000) on the national budget in order to analyze the poor allocation for women, particularly on maternal health,

women's livelihood, and women's education and thus advocate for increasing this allocation. BNPS also provided microfinance support along with training on financial management, entrepreneurship development, and market linkage development to 30,000 women directly (Millennium Development Goals 1 and 5). BNPS is actively involved with the consultation on water and democracy on the South Asia level (Millennium Development Goal 7). BNPS is also very much active in working against racial discrimination, particularly discrimination towards ethnic and religious minorities and *dalits* (untouchables). BNPS published 10 booklets, posters, leaflets, bulletins, folders on all of the above areas as awareness and advocacy materials.

BNPS also works towards the political empowerment of women through involving them in local government, which also increases their access to public resources. It also provided training to 500 local government elected members, including female members, in order to make them gender sensitive in 10 districts. Also, 40 (watchdog) local committees have been formed and trained in the public auditing of local government activities; half of the members of these committees are women. Around 400,000 people throughout the country have been provided with information and awareness training on gender and environment, which helped increase space for women in political activities, parties, income generating activities, and education. Among these people are: students, lawyers, teachers, folk artists, writers, cultural groups, and ethnic and religious minority groups.

4. Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International

(Special, 2003)

PART I. Introduction

Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International (HURIDOCS), established in 1982, is a global network of organisations concerned with human rights. HURIDOCS itself does **not** collect information; rather, it functions as a decentralised network in which organisations can handle and exchange information according to their own requirements.

HURIDOCS facilitates human rights documentation work by:

- developing **tools and techniques** for human rights monitoring and information handling (such as formats for the recording and exchange of information on documents and on human rights violations).
- organising **training courses and workshops** on human rights information handling in co-operation with organisations involved in the network.
- providing **advice and support** on the establishment and maintenance of documentation centres and information systems.

HURIDOCS is an open-ended network where organisations can participate in various ways: Task Forces, training courses etc. HURIDOCS does not have a formal membership structure, but it has contacts with organisations in more than 150 countries. The main focus of HURIDOCS is to strengthen the information handling capacities of organisations in developing countries.

The objectives of HURIDOCS are:

1: To develop tools and techniques for monitoring, information management and communication; and to provide them to human rights organisations

2: To build the capacity of the human rights community to master and adapt these tools and techniques to their specific needs through training and other activities

3: To support human rights organisations to set up and strengthen their information systems

4: To improve human rights advocacy and reporting techniques

5: To expand human rights outreach and network capacity

6: To provide a centre of excellence on methods and techniques for human rights monitoring, documentation handling and information management

PART II. Contribution of the organisation to the work of the United Nations

1. Collaboration in training activities

HURIDOCS regularly collaborated with United Nations agencies in organising training activities in the field of human rights documentation.

a. Training Workshop on Techniques and Tools for Human Rights Information Handling and Documentation: Accra, Ghana, 13 – 16 December 2005

HURIDOCS, together with the Africa Unit, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, organised this bilingual English/French regional training course. It was hosted by the Legon Centre for International Affairs. The aim of the workshop was to bring the participants together in order to assess ways of elaborating a general template for recording and exchanging information related to Human Rights violations for transmission to the OHCHR Geneva in the framework of the database which will be created by the new consultant on the matter.

Eighteen participants attended the workshop representing several OHCHR Headquarters, field presences, offices or Human Rights components of Peace-keeping missions: Human Rights office in Burundi, Sub-regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa, United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (ONUCI), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, The Human Rights Adviser in Togo, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Uganda, United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMIL), as well as representatives of human rights institutions and civil society organisations from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Togo and Uganda.

b. Training Course for Iraqi Librarians: Geneva, Switzerland, 27 November to 8 December 2006

HURIDOCS, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the United Nations Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) organised a training course for Iraqi librarians. Its overall purpose was to train librarians working in legal and human rights libraries in Iraq on modern library management techniques. The training course constituted part of a larger project aiming to support the development and strengthening of an Iraqi led and owned national human rights protection system.

The fifteen participants for the course were selected by UNAMI HRO and the OHCHR. The primary beneficiaries are the librarians working in the library of the Iraqi Ministry of Human Rights, from which there were four participants. There were two participants from the Council of Representatives while other participants came from six different University libraries.

c. Training course in Haiti

As part of the plan following the training course held in 2002, a training course was held in Haiti in August 2003. The course was supported by the *United Nations Development Programme* and involved the teaching of tools for documenting human rights violations. The main resource person was Jean Baptise Azolin of *Haiti Solidarité International* who had taken part in HURIDOCS' Francophone trainers' training course held in Senegal in December 2002. The HURIDOCS Secretari gave support and advice for this training course which was attended by 16 participants from six Haitian NGOs.

d. Training Courses in Uzbekistan

At the request of the *United Nations Development Programme* in Tashkent, two trainings took place in Uzbekistan. They were held in the framework of a project to implement recommendations made b Theo van Boven, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture. From 28 to 30 September 2004 training course for human rights activists and lawyers was held, with 22 participants. A second training for staff from the Ministry of the Interior and police officers responsible for investigations was held on 5 and 6 December 2004, with 15 participants. The programmes of both courses include sessions on monitoring, documentation (including an introduction to the HURIDOCS software) and writing reports related to human rights events.

2. Participation in United Nations events

HURIDOCS participated in the World Summit on the Information Society in Geneva, 10-12 December, 2003. HURIDOCS organised a Workshop with the theme *Information Technology for Human Rights*. HURIDOCS also participated in some of the meetings of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council. In collaboration with several other Geneva-based NGOs, HURIDOCS presented its tools during lunch break sessions at the Commission on Human Rights as well as the Sub-commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

3. Contacts with Geneva-based Bodies of the United Nations

HURIDOCS also had regular contacts with staff at the Geneva office of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and in particular with the National Institutions Unit, wi whom it held deliberations about a project concerning the *Development of a human rights informati management database*. HURIDOCS also provided inputs to a consultancy on this topic, and provide demonstrations of its tools to OHCHR staff. HURIDOCS also hosted different interns at the request of the OHCHR. HURIDOCS also had regular contacts with the Library/Documentation Centre of th United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

4. Application of UNESCO software

The INDEP/SERIAL databases for bibliographic documentation contain the Bibliographic Standard Formats of HURIDOCS. These databases are programmed in the CDS/ISIS for Windows software, which is being developed and distributed by UNESCO.

During 2004, INDEP/SERIAL was updated and modified so as to facilitate installation. In 2005, new features were added to the INDEP/SERIAL database system based, in part, on new developments in UNESCO's CDS/ISIS. The system was translated into French in preparation for training courses in Rwanda. In 2006, the Arabic version of the CDS-ISIS for Windows software and the HURIDOCS Bibliographic Standard Formats were used at the training course for librarians from Iraq and made available to the participants.

5. Access to United Nations information through the HuriSearch search engine

HuriSearch www.hurisearch.org, the Web search engine developed by HURIDOCS, provides access to over 3,000 Websites of human rights organisations world-wide. This includes 28 Websites of organs within the United Nations system, including specialised agencies, which contain information about human rights.

5. National Women's Council of Catalonia

(Special, 1999)

Introduction

The National Women's Council of Catalonia (CNDC from now on) is the participative and consultative body of the Catalan Institute for Women, bringing together the different organisations, associations, groups and councils for women in Catalonia in order to operate comprehensively regarding issues related to the Action Plan of the Catalan government (the Generalitat de Catalunya) in the area of women's policies in the political, economic, social and cultural sphere.

On the 28 December 2004, amendments were made to the CNDC's by-laws, making it more functional and operative, with the publication of a decree in which the Territorial Assemblies of Women of Catalonia were also created. Without altering its basic aims, the CNDC was therefore broadened, made more participative and wide-ranging, ensuring the diversity of the women's association movement in Catalonia is represented as thoroughly as possible, as well as encouraging decentralisation.

The CNDC also promotes the participation and association of women and encourages networking. It responds to queries regarding the goals of the Catalan government's Action Plan in the area of women's policies, assesses their degree of implementation and participates in evaluating the actions taken. It makes new proposals to the Catalan Institute for Women on issues affecting women's groups. It proposes activities, seminars and campaigns to be carried out in order to raise awareness of women's contribution to society and to promote changes so that the specific nature of women's participation in the political, social, cultural and economic spheres is recognised, aiming to achieve social advances in any aspect, from the point of view of women. It also proposes suitable procedures for being actively involved in those forums and debates whose aim is women's policies or are of

particular interest to women. It issues reports on areas of interest to women and helps to raise awareness in society. It also monitors the increased involvement of women in government bodies and decision-making processes, both in the public and private sphere.

To date, a total of 279 NGOs form part of the CNDC, working for equal opportunities among men and women in all areas and to appraise and increase women's involvement in society. 25 of these NGOs are key organisations in the association network, as they are made up of other women's associations and groups with the same aims.

Contribution to the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other meetings of the United Nations

All of the sessions that we attended have influenced and contributed to the annual approaching of strategic subjects, the collaboration in the elaboration of the plans of equality of our Government and the knowledge of the performances that are carried out beyond our boundaries.

The network with the rest of entities help us to work to strengthen the links with the international organizations and to open new ways of cooperation.

- Attendance to and participation in the 47th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 3 - 14 March 2003, New York. Presentation of two written declarations: "Participation and access of women to the media, and information and communication technologies and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women" and "Women's human rights and elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls as defined in the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome document of the Special Session for the General Assembly entitled "'Women: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'".

- Attendance to and participation in the 48th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 1 - 12 March 2004, New York. Presentation of two written declarations: "The role of men and boys in achieving gender equality" and "Women's equal participation in conflict prevention, management and conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace-building"

- Attendance to and participation in the 49th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 28 February - 11 March 2005, New York. The work of this session and the established contacts were arranged with the signature of an agreement with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the United Nations Development Programme (PNUD).

- Attendance to and participation in the 50th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 27 February - 10 March 2006, New York. Presentation of a written declaration about the two main subjects and a speech of Carme Riu (CNDC representative) in the general session of the General Assembly.

There was a meeting of Catalan representatives who attended the 50th Session.

Other

In this period, the National Women's Council of Catalonia has not been able to take part in other meetings of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations as it has focused its work on issues related to the Catalan government's Action Plan in the area of women's policies in the political, economic, social and cultural sphere.

However, below is a list (not exhaustive) of various actions carried out by the National Women's Council of Catalonia by means of the representation of some of its members over the last four years (2003 – 2006):

2003

- Participation and support for the seminar on Women and Europe: Programmes and Aid, 25 February, Barcelona (Spain).

- Participation in the 1st International Congress of Women and Disability, 27 February - 1 March, Valencia (Spain).

- Participation in the Congress on the Status of Women in Small European States, 21 - 23 March, Andorra.

- Attendance to the Act commemorating the release of the prisoners from the Ravensbrück Women's Concentration Camp, 10 - 13 April, Ravensbrück (Germany).

- Presentation of five women as candidates for the 15th International Catalonia Award.

This award is given to those people whose work has played a decisive role in developing cultural, scientific or human values worldwide. The Egyptian writer and social activist, Nawal Al-Sa'dawi, won this award in 2003 for her work defending social and women's rights in the Arab world, for which she was imprisoned and sentenced to death by fundamentalist groups.

2004

- Participation in the World Women's Forum 2004, 29 - 31 July, Barcelona (Spain).

2005

Contribution to and direct participation in:

- Action and Development Plan for Women's Policies in Catalonia (2005-2007).

- Open public consultation by the European Commission on the Green Paper "Confronting demographic change: a new solidarity between the generations", published by the European Commission, 17 March, in Brussels (Belgium).

- White paper on women's rights to eradicate male-based violence.

- Drawing up the new Statute for Catalonia.

- Process of creating the State Council for Women, based on Directive 2002/73/EC of the European Parliament and Council, 23 September 2002.

- Euromed Women's Barcelona +10 Conference, 24 and 25 November 2005, Barcelona (Spain). Promoted by the Catalan government and with the collaboration of the European Commission, the Spanish government, the government of the province of Barcelona and Barcelona City Council.

2006

- Meeting of Catalan representatives within the framework of the 50th session of the CSW, 1 March 2006, New York.

- Follow-up on the White Paper of women's rights to eradicate male-based violence.

- Follow-up and participation in drawing up the *Framework protocol and national circuit for coordinated action against violence against women.*

- Participation and follow-up of the bill for the *Public General Act for equality between men and women.*

- Participation and follow-up of the bill for the *Act to promote the personal autonomy and care of dependent people.*

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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Arab Lawyers Union

(Special; 1971)

Part I. Introduction

The Arab lawyers Union (ALU) is a regional NGO. It is the first Arab NGO to gain a special status with the Council (ECOSOC). ALU members consist of 27 Arabic bar associations and law societies and more than 13.000 individual lawyers.

ALU is in consultative status with UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) as well as observer status with the African Commission for Human Rights and the Arab Educational Scientific and cultural Organization. ALU is a member of The International Association of Lawyers (UIA), The International Bar Association (IBA), The International Criminal Bar (ICB), The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC), The International Legal Aid Consortium (ILAC), The International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (APPSO) and The World Organization Against Torture (OMACT) and several United Nations Committees such as Human Rights special committee.

The ALU aims to promote and develop the legal profession in the Arab nations in order to enable it to fulfill its basic task of maintaining the principle of justice, to establish and defend the independence of the judiciary and guaranteeing the rights immunity and independence of judges, to compile and consolidate Arab legal resources to enrich Arab law and jurisprudence, to promote the basic principles of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the supremacy of the rule of law in Arab countries, in law and in practice and guaranteeing and defending them and to promote international law.

In order to achieve these aims, ALU has been holding conferences, seminars and workshops all over the Arab world on relevant issues individually or jointly with other international and regional NGOs and Law institutions. ALU organized training courses for Arab Lawyers. Some are joint activities with other national, regional and international NGOs or governmental institutions such as: The International Association of Lawyers (UIA), The Law Society of England and Wales, the Arab League. Recently we joined the "Program on Promoting the Rule of Law and Integrity in the Arab Countries" with the United Nations Development Program and The Arab Center for the Development of the Rule of Law and Integrity (ACRLI.)

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) *Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.*

***2003*:**

- 55th session of "United Nations Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights", 28 July- 15 August (Geneva, Switzerland).
- "UNESCO General Conference", 29 September – 18 October (Paris –France).

2004:

- 60th session of "Commission on Human Rights", 15 March -23 April (Geneva – Switzerland).
- The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Arab-International Forum on the Socio-Economic Rehabilitation and Development in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, 11-14 October, (Beirut – Lebanon).

2005:

- 61st session of "Commission on Human Rights", 14 March-22 April (Geneva – Switzerland).
- 57th session of "United Nations Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights", 25 July-12 August, (Geneva – Switzerland).

2006:

- First session of the Human Rights Council, 19-30 June, (Geneva –Switzerland).
- 24th session of "ESCWA", 8–11 May, (Beirut – Lebanon),
- Second session of the Human Rights Council, 18 September to 6 October, and 27-29 November, (Geneva –Switzerland).
- Assembly of state Parties of International Criminal Bar, 23-25 November, United Nations Headquarters).
- Third session of the Human Rights Council, 29 November - 8 December, (Geneva – Switzerland).

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarter:

As mentioned above, we started in the year 2006 to join, in a practical way, the UNDP "Program on Promoting the Rule of Law and Integrity in the Arab Countries". There was an activity during 2006 in which we participated in the co-coordination and preparation for a workshop held in 2007 Cairo – Egypt.

ii) Activities in Support of Global Principles.

- The ALU continued during 2003 and 2004 the program of "Lawyers for the New Millennium", which is a joint program with the European Union (EU) and the Law Society of England and Wales. It is a capacity building program for Lawyers in the Arab World. In that period we organized the planned program workshops in Damascus, Syria Arab Republic; Beirut, Lebanon, and Amman, Jordan (for both Jordanian and Palestinian Lawyers).
- During the reporting period ALU was going through the process of establishing two forums. The first is "The Youth Lawyers Forum". The Founding Conference took place in 2005 (Cairo- Egypt). The first General Conference will take place at the end of 2007. The Second is "The Arab Women Lawyers Forum" which held several preparatory meetings during 2005 and 2006. The founding Conference will be held in 2007.

We would like to mention that ALU has not participated as fully as might be expected in the work of ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies, in major conferences or other United Nations meeting in this period because of some budget problems concerning the decrease in income of ALU during this period, the raising of the prices of flight tickets, the long process of entry visas, especially to United Nations Headquarter in New York, which takes several months, and official invitations generally arrive too late to be included in the budget and to have entry visas.

2. Center for International Earth Science Information Network

(Special; 1995)

Part I: Introduction

The Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN) was established in 1989 as an independent non-governmental organization to provide information that would help scientists, decision makers, and the public better understand the changing relationship between human beings and the environment. CIESIN focuses on applying state-of-the-art information technology to pressing interdisciplinary data, information, and research problems related to human interactions in the environment. The International Council for Science (ICSU) has designated CIESIN the World Data Center for Human Interactions in the Environment.

CIESIN's mission is to provide access to and enhance the use of information worldwide, advancing understanding of human interactions in the environment and serving the needs of science and public and private decision making. CIESIN disseminates environmental and socioeconomic data and information free of charge over the Internet and via other means on request, and provides value-added services and support, also free of charge. CIESIN scientists conduct research and participate in assessments on key issues regarding human-environment interactions, including the impacts of climate change, indicators of environmental sustainability, the distribution of poverty, land use and land cover change, the risks posed by natural and human-induced hazards, the interactions between environment and health, and the role of the environment in security. In collaboration with Columbia University, CIESIN also promotes long-term access to and preservation of key datasets, building on open international standards. CIESIN works collaboratively with a wide range of governmental and nongovernmental organizations including national agencies, United Nations bodies, and other multilateral organizations.

There have not been any significant changes in CIESIN's organization or mission during this period. Dr. Robert S. Chen became CIESIN's Interim Director in May 2006 replacing Dr. Roberta Balstad, and has since become Director.

Part II: CIESIN's Contributions to the Work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council subsidiary bodies and major United Nations conferences and meetings

Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). CIESIN participated in meetings of the CSD Expert Group Meeting on Indicators of Sustainable Development in New York City on 13–15 December 2005 and 3–4 October 2006, and assumed responsibility for improving the methodology

for the core indicator "Percentage of total population living in coastal areas." CIESIN also contributed to discussions regarding a new core indicator on natural hazard vulnerability. On 5 May 2003, CIESIN and the Wildlife Conservation Society presented work on the Human Footprint in a side event at CSD–11.

United Nations Geographic Information Working Group (UNGIWG). CIESIN has continued to contribute to the UNGIWG. A CIESIN staff member gave a presentation at the UNGIWG seventh meeting in Santiago, Chile on 2–4 November 2006 (http://www.ungiwg.org/meeting2006.htm). CIESIN provided technical advice and data to the Second Administrative Level Boundaries (SALB) Project of the International and Administrative Boundaries working group (http://www.who.int/whosis/database/gis/salb/salb_home.htm). CIESIN also provided inputs to the development of the United Nations Spatial Data Infrastructure (UNSDI) Compendium and Strategy Implementation Paper (http://www.ungiwg.org/docs/unsdi/UNSDI_Compendium_13_02_2007.pdf).

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). CIESIN's former Director attended the Phase I meeting of WSIS in Geneva 10-12 December 2003. CIESIN's current Director attended the Phase II meeting of WSIS in Tunis on 16–18 November 2005. He participated in several WSIS side events organized by the Government of the United States of America, the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI), and the Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA) of the International Council for Science (ICSU).

United Nations Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID). As a follow-on to WSIS, CIESIN is now an organizational participant in one of the GAID "Communities of Expertise," the Global Alliance for Enhancing Access to and Application of Scientific Data in Developing Countries (http://www.un-gaid.org/en/node/237).

ii) Cooperation with United Nations Bodies and Specialized Agencies

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). CIESIN collaborated with FAO in the development of the data set, Gridded Population of the World: Future Estimates, released in 2005. CIESIN also co-organized a user workshop with FAO, the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and others, "Global Spatial Data and Information: Development, Dissemination and Use," held 21–23 September 2004 in Palisades, New York. (http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/GSDworkshop/).

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The IPCC, established by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Environment Program, has created a Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA). CIESIN is one of three organizations supporting the IPCC Data Distribution Center (http://www.ipcc-data.org/). In recognition of this role, CIESIN's Director serves as an *ex officio* member of the TGICA.

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA). Several specialized agencies co-sponsored the MA. CIESIN supported the MA by providing two core data sets. CIESIN's Deputy Director was a Convening Lead Author, and another CIESIN scientist was an author (http://www.millenniumassessment.org/en/index.aspx).

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). CIESIN has worked closely with UNDP in the development of the Global Risk Identification Program, including co-organization of planning meetings on 4–6 January and 19 May 2006 in Palisades, New York. (http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/chrr/news/2006/grip.html).

United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). CIESIN's Deputy Director is a Convening Lead Author of UNEP's Fourth Global Environmental Outlook (GEO-4), currently in final review stages. CIESIN collaborated with several different UNEP Global Resource Information Database (GRID) centers during 2003–2006, including provision of data to UNEP-GRID Internet map services and development of the Global Natural Disaster Risk Hotspots data (http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/chrr/research/hotspots/). CIESIN also provided population density data for the UNEP report, "After the Tsunami: Rapid Environmental Assessment" (http://www.unep.org/tsunami/tsunami_rpt.asp).

United Nations Geographic Information Support Team (GIST). CIESIN has been an active observer in the GIST, participating in regular telecons and contributing relevant spatial data in response to various humanitarian crises, including the 2004 South African tsunami.

United Nations Population Division. CIESIN co-organized a workshop with the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), "Rethinking the Estimation and Projection of Urban and City Populations," in New York City on 9–10 January 2006 (http://www.iussp.org/Activities/wgc-urb/urb-agenda06.php).

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). CIESIN co-organized a workshop with UNFPA, "Population, the Urban Poor and Sustainable Development," in New York City on 2–3 June 2005 (http://www.ciesin.columbia.edu/documents/Final_Report_31aug05.pdf). CIESIN organized a second workshop for UNFPA, "Gender and Poverty," on 28 July 2005.

United Nations Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). CIESIN presented work on environmental sustainability indicators in the Asia-Pacific region to the Second Green Growth Policy Dialogue, 23–25 May 2006, in Beijing.

World Health Organization (WHO). A CIESIN research staff member presented at the WHO Conference, "The Health Aspects of the Tsunami Disaster in Asia," held 4 – 6 May 2005 in Phuket, Thailand (http://www.who.int/hac/events/tsunamiconf/en/). CIESIN has also worked closely with WHO staff through UNGIWG and other activities.

iii) Activities in Support of Global Principles

Millennium Project (MP). From 2002–2006, CIESIN actively supported the Millennium Project, an initiative commissioned by the United Nations Secretary General and supported by the United Nations Development Group (http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/). CIESIN worked closely with many of the MP Task Forces, assisting with their spatial analysis and mapping needs. In 2006, CIESIN began providing data management assistance to the Millennium Villages Project.

3. Centre d'accompagnement des autochtones Pygmées et minoritaires vulnérables

(Special; 2003)

I. Introduction

1. *Principal aim and purpose of the organization*:

To ensure the full integration of the indigenous Pygmy people into modern society. The organization engages in the following activities: humanitarian assistance, basic education, promotion and protection of indigenous rights, peace and reconciliation, environmental education and sustainable development activities for indigenous Pygmies.

2. *Significant developments in the life of the organization during the period 2003-2007*:

- Artificial personality granted by Order No. 067/CAB/MIN/J/2007 of 5 February 2007 of the Minister of Justice of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- Following a proposal by the organization's Executive Director to the Administrative Board and with the approval of the organization's General Assembly, the supreme decision-making body, the following resolutions were adopted at its meeting on 2 March 2005:
- The name of the organization was amended to: "Centre d'accompagnement des autochtones Pygmées et minoritaires vulnérables — international (CAMV — International)."
- The resolution was approved by Order No. 067/CAB/MIN/J/2007 of 5 February 2007 of the Minister of Justice of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Notification No. JUST.GS/SG/20/265/2007 of 21 February 2007.
- The organization is active in the following countries: Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Gabon, Rwanda and Uganda.

The organization has decided to add the following operational objective: to engage in advocacy on behalf of the interests of the indigenous Pygmy peoples at the local, national, subregional and international levels.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations bodies

- Twenty-first session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 21 to 25 July 2003, on the theme "Indigenous peoples and globalization". Nature of participation: oral and written statement.

- Twenty-second session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, held in Geneva, from 19 to 23 July 2004, on the theme "Indigenous peoples and conflict resolution". Nature of participation: oral and written statement.

- Third session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, held in New York from 10 to 21 May 2004, on the theme "Indigenous women". Nature of participation: oral and written statement.

- Fourth session of the Permanent Forum, held in New York from 10 to 21 May 2005, on the theme. "The Millennium Development Goals and indigenous peoples: redefining the Goals". Nature of participation: oral and written statement.

- Twenty-fourth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples, held in Geneva, from 31 July to 4 August 2006, on the theme "Utilization of indigenous peoples' lands by non-indigenous authorities, groups or individuals for military purposes". Nature of participation: oral and written statement.

- Fifth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, held in New York from 15 to 26 May 2006, on the theme "The Millennium Development Goals and indigenous peoples: redefining the Goals".

- Training session held by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 27 November to 1 December 2006, on the theme "Rights of indigenous peoples: instruments and good practices".

ii. Cooperation with United Nations agencies in the field

- Participated in monthly meetings of the World Health Organization (WHO), in cooperation with the Ministry of Health of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as member of the National Malaria Programme.

- Dissemination of ILO Convention No. 169 through the journal *ECHO des pygmées* (2003-2006), produced by the organization.

(iii) *Activities undertaken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals*

- Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. Action taken: Income-earning activities for indigenous Pygmy families. Total US$ 87,288.

- Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education. Action taken: Support for education of indigenous Pygmy children: $102,000.

- Goal 3: Maternal and child welfare. Action taken: Malaria programme: $67,000.

- Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability. Action taken: Environmental education programme for indigenous Pygmies: $133,567.

2. Activities in support of global principles (2003-2006)

Celebration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous People. Total raised $14,280.

4. Congregations of St. Joseph

(General; 1999)

Part I. Introduction

The Congregations of St. Joseph is an organization of women religious associated with the Catholic Church with 15,345 individual members in 55 countries with institutional infrastructure in the promotion of healthy societies. This NGO commits human and financial resources to further the promotion of human rights and responsibilities, the eradication of poverty, sustainable environmental development, the education of women and children, community health, and human social services. These areas are addressed through the establishment and staffing of schools, from primary to the university level; the establishment and staffing of health facilities including hospitals, clinics, hospices, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities; sponsoring community development projects at the grassroots, national and regional levels, and advocating for the promotion of the status of women, children, displaced, trafficked, marginalized and indigenous peoples.

Since its last Quadrennial report, the Congregations of St. Joseph welcomed 2,000 members into the NGO from Australia. This addition of membership allows the NGO to promote United Nations programs and support in Australia, New Zealand, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Thailand. This additional membership contributes significantly to the work of the NGO in support of the United Nations in these areas and these members are very active in that region of the world regarding United Nations issues. This additional geographic membership contributes to the financial support of the NGO in nominal ways, parallel to the other NGO membership in the remaining 54 countries of geographical representation.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

1. Representatives participated in the 61st Session of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland (14 March through 22 April 2005). Representatives attended United Nations preparatory meetings regarding the establishment of the Human Rights Council at United Nations Headquarters, New York, United States of America, submitted supportive written statements, and lobbied governments for the establishment of said Human Rights Council.

2. Representatives participated in the following annual Commission and Forum meetings held at United Nations Headquarters, New York through attendance, written statements and side events sponsored and/or co-sponsored:

a. The 41st-44th Sessions of the Commission for Social Development 10-21 February 2003; 4-13 February 2004; 9-18 February 2005; 8-17 February 2006. Written statements submitted: 12/01/04: E/CN.5/2004/NGO/8: Improving public-sector effectiveness; 17/12/04: E/CN.5/2005/NGO/6: Review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the 24th special session of the General Assembly; 14/12/05: E/CN.5/2006/NGO/1: Review of the 1st United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty; 10/11/2006: E/CN.5/2007/NGO/5: Promoting full employment and decent work for all.

b. 47th- 50th Sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, 3-14 March 2003; 1-12 March 2004; 28 February-11 March 2005; and 27 February-10 March 2006. Side events were

sponsored/co-sponsored and members attended from India, United Republic of Tanzania and Mexico for the 2003 and 2005 sessions.

c. 11th- 14th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, 28 April-9 May 2003; 14-30 April 2004; 28 February-4 March 2005; 1-12 May 2006. Side events were sponsored/co-sponsored and youth participants attended from Canada and Brazil in 2004 and 2005.

d. 2nd through 5th Sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, 11-23 May 2003; 10-21 May 2004; 16-27 May 2005; 15-26 May 2006. Side events were sponsored/ co-sponsored and members attended from Brazil for 2004 session.

e. Inter-governmental sessions on Financing for Development (26 April 2004; 18 April 2005; 24 April 2006) at United Nations Headquarters, New York. Lobbied governments for adherence to Monterrey Consensus outcomes, particularly systemic issues of 0.7% ODA, trade and debt. Created and delivered talking points for the multi-stakeholders consultations held annually. Co-sponsored Civil Society Forum prior to 2005 and 2006 annual meeting in New York. Participated in roundtable discussions on annual themes of sessions.

3. Representatives served on the following NGO committees from 2003-2006:

a. NGO Committee of Religious NGOs, Disarmament, Human Rights,

b. NGO Committee on Education (chairperson 2003-2004),

c. NGO Committee on Social Development, Sustainable Development,

d. NGO Committee on Financing for Development (executive committee 2003-2006),

e. NGO Committee on Status of Women (executive committee 2003-2005).

ii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters.

a. Local educational programs in cooperation with United Nations Environmental Programme to further sustainable development in Brazil, India, Mexico, the United States, France, Italy, Japan, and Senegal (2003, 2004, 2005).

b. Cooperation with United Nations Children's Fund and United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to implement healthcare for women and children in Mozambique (2004) and the United Republic of Tanzania (2005).

c. Educational program supportive of UNESCO to promote the Decade for Education for Sustainable Development in Brazil, India, Canada, Australia, Kenya (2005).

d. Shadow Report on Australia written and presented to the 34th session of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (16 January to 3 February 2006).

iii. Initiatives undertaken to further the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

a. During the reporting period educational programs on the MDGs were presented in the United States, Canada, Mexico, France, Japan, India, Brazil, Ireland, Argentina, Egypt, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania in elementary and secondary schools, colleges, and universities. Presentations took place in NGO member seminars and informal settings of local community organizing and development.

b. Goal 1: "Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger:" nutritional care and food for 198,500 women and children in India (Bhopal, Nagpur, Visak and Kerala).

c. Goal 2: "Achieve universal primary education:" education provided for 123, 850 girl children in India, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania and Kenya

d. Goal 3: "Promote gender equality and empower women:" women's empowerment and leadership development programs offered for 3,780 tribal women in the north of India

e. Goal 7: "Ensure environmental sustainability:" 7 bore holes provided in Kenya, 5 purification water systems provided in India, funding and technical assistance provided for organic farming in Brazil.

f. Goal 6: "combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases:" 125 bed nets provided in the United Republic of Tanzania, funding for healthcare training and establishment of HIV/AIDS clinics provided in Mozambique and the United Republic of Tanzania.

iv. Activities in Support of United Nations themes and issues

a. International Days (International Day of Peace, Eradication of Poverty Day, Literacy Day, Women's Day, Human Rights Day, International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination, World Water Day, International Youth Day, World Food Day, World AIDS Day, International Migrants Day and International Day of Families) were recognized and celebrated throughout the NGO membership with educational programs, awareness raising, celebrations and rallies. Many of these events received local media attention and promotion through the networking of our members in the specific countries. These events continually took place in Brazil, Mexico, India, United States and Canada (the locations where there is a critical mass of members).

b. Lobbying of national governments relative to United Nations goals by NGO membership at local and national levels.

Geographical Membership of Congregations of St. Joseph

Africa Total: 290

Algeria –3; Burkina Faso--18; Cameroon --6; Chad -2; Egypt –21; Gambia—2; Côte d'Ivoire: 63; Kenya: 4; Lebanon – 20; Madagascar – 70; Mozambique – 8; Democratic Republic of the Congo-- 6; United Republic of Tanzania – 16; Democratic Republic of the Congo – 48; Zambia -- 3

Asia Total: 1243

India – 1196; Japan—31; Pakistan—8; Philippines –2; Papua New Guinea—5; Republic of Korea--1

Europe Total: 3205

Belgium – 3; Denmark—5; England—50; France—1953; Germany—5; Hungary—2; Ireland—64; Italy—1104; Norway—6; Romania—3; Scotland—2; Czech Republic—3; Switzerland—2; Wales-3

Caribbean Total: 39

Bahamas –2; Dominican Republic – 4; Haiti – 6; Jamaica – 4; Puerto Rico – 23

Australia Total: 2000

Americas Total: 8568

Argentina – 54; Bolivia – 10; Brazil – 910; Canada – 574; El Salvador – 3; Guatemala – 4; Honduras – 3; Mexico – 216; Nicaragua – 2; Paraguay—3; Peru – 17; United States – 6765; Uruguay – 3; Chile—4

5. International Bureau for Children's Rights

(Special; 2003)

Part I. Introduction

The mission of the International Bureau for Children's Rights (IBCR) is to contribute to the protection and promotion of children's rights. In pursuing its mission, the IBCR is guided by the principles enshrined in the United Nations *Convention on the Rights of the Child* and its related protocols as well as other relevant international instruments. The objectives of IBCR are to: inform and raise awareness about children's rights; develop strategies to address violations of children's rights; support international, regional and national initiatives to implement children's rights; facilitate cooperation within the international community.

To carry out its mission, IBCR is raising awareness and increasing public understanding of children's rights through education and training; identifying and sharing good practices; developing guidelines and other practical and legal tools for the implementation of children's rights; providing technical and legal assistance to address situations that compound the vulnerability of children; and facilitating cooperation within the international community.

Part II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

1) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

27-29 November 2006: Representatives of IBCR attended the Intergovernmental Experts Group Meeting to develop a questionnaire on United Nations standards and norms related primarily to victim issues, United Nations Office at Vienna, where they contributed to ensure the issue of child victims and witnesses of crime was duly reflected in the draft instrument.

24-28 April 2006: A representative of IBCR attended the Fifteenth session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in Vienna, Austria.

18-19 April 2006: A representative of IBCR participated in the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Criminal Justice Responses to Violence against Children: Best Practices and Innovative Solutions.

22 July 2005: The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopted the final report of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and with it the new United Nations Guidelines on Justice in Matters Involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime (Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/20). The resolution as well as the Guidelines themselves, formally recognize the efforts of IBCR in laying the groundwork for the adoption of the Guidelines.

23-27 May 2005: A representative of IBCR attended the Fourteenth session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in support of the adoption of a draft resolution which adopted the Guidelines on Justice in Matters Involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, United Nations Office, Vienna.

18-25 April 2005: A representative of IBCR attended the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held in Bangkok, Thailand. Furthermore, IBCR organized an ancillary meeting on the draft guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses of crime.

15-16 March 2005: A representative of IBCR attended the Intergovernmental Experts Group meeting held in Vienna, Austria, to develop guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses of crime, United Nations Office at Vienna.

21 July 2004: The Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 2004/27, which notes with appreciation the efforts of the IBCR in drafting the guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses and calls for an intergovernmental experts group meeting to be held to develop United Nations guidelines. The resolution also calls for the guidelines to be discussed at the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Bangkok, 18-25 April 2005.

11-20 May 2004: A representative of IBCR attended the Thirteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in Vienna, Austria, to support the adoption of a draft resolution on the IBCR guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses, United Nations Office at Vienna.

27-28 November 2003: A representative of IBCR attended the 10th Plenary Session of the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Committee of the United Nations on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (ISPAC), in Courmayeur, Italy.

13-22 May 2003: A representative of IBCR attended the Twelfth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in Vienna, Austria. IBCR also organized a side-event on the IBCR Guidelines on Justice for Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, United Nations Office at Vienna.

i) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

2006-2007: Launch of a 4-year project titled: "Assisting Member States in the implementation of the United Nations Guidelines on Justice in Matters Involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime". This UNODC project is implemented in partnership with UNICEF and IBCR and is intended to assist Member States in adapting their legislation and procedures to enhance the capacity of their respective criminal justice systems to respond to child victims and witnesses of crime in accordance with relevant international legal instruments and standards and norms, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Guidelines on Justice in Matters Involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime.

18-20 November 2004: IBCR hosted the Conference "Making Children's Rights Work: National and International Perspectives", held in Montreal, Canada to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The event also marked the 10th anniversary of IBCR. Keynote speakers included the Deputy Director General of UNICEF and the Rapporteur of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child.

12-24 November 2003: The IBCR provided follow-up technical assistance pertaining to Armenia's National Report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child and conducted training for the staff members of the Armenian Resource Center on Children's Rights.

10-12 February 2003: A representative of IBCR participated in the Meeting of Experts on the Use and Application of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Stadtschlaining, Austria. The representative also submitted a paper titled "Children's Rights: The Role of NGOs in Supporting the Application of United Nations Standards and Norms. Is There a Need For New Standards?"

ii) Initiatives in line with internationally agreed development Goals

Since 2004, IBCR's new programme on Country Profiles on the Status of the Implementation of the CRC aims to detect existing challenges and gaps, highlight progress made and identify commendable practices that are developed in the area of children's rights by States Parties, with a particular focus on developing countries. Moreover, the preparation and publication of the country profiles allow a comparative analysis and an enhanced knowledge of the situation of children's rights at both country and regional levels, highlighting achievements, variations and remaining challenges particular to a regional ensemble.

The protection of children is fundamental to ensure access to human rights and needs, and is therefore a necessary step to fight poverty. The *Millennium Development Goals* are reflected in the structure of the Country profiles and indeed influence the research, analysis and reporting. For example, in relation to education, the Country profiles specifically report on statistics and analyses efforts made at national level to ensure that all children complete a full course of primary schooling and to eliminate gender disparity both in primary and secondary education. In relation to health, the Country profiles specifically report on and analyze States Parties' efforts to reduce the mortality rate among children under five, the maternal mortality ratio and measure to curb HIV/AIDS. In 2006, IBCR released its first regional report entitles, "Making Children's Rights Work: Country Profiles on Cambodia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam (2006)," available in English in PDF or hard copy.

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1. Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions

(Special consultative: 1999)

Part I: Introduction

The Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions is an international human rights organisation committed to preventing forced evictions and upholding the human right to adequate housing. COHRE's International Secretariat office is in Geneva. COHRE currently operates field offices in Australia, Brazil, Ghana, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and the United States. COHRE's thematic programmes currently include: Right to Water; Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Litigation; Global Forced Evictions; Housing and Property Restitution; and Women and Housing Rights. COHRE also has the following regional programmes: COHRE Africa, COHRE Americas, COHRE Asia-Pacific. Further information about COHRE is available at: **www.cohre.org.**

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings:

COHRE is a member of the Steering Committee of the NGO Coalition for the adoption of an Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR). COHRE has worked extensively with and within United Nations mechanisms including participating in discussions of the draft OP-ICESCR at the 59th (17 March – 25 April 2003), 60th (13 March – 23 April 2004) and 61st (14 March – 22 April 2005) sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and the 1st session of the Human Rights Council, 19-30 June 2006, in Geneva, Switzerland. COHRE has participated at all meetings to date of the Open-Ended Working Group mandated to work on this issue.

COHRE has also been an active contributor to standard setting and norm-strengthening of the right to water, contributing to a number of ongoing processes. For instance, prior to the 57th session (25 July – 12 August 2005) of the United Nations Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland, COHRE provided legal and policy advice to the member of the United Nations Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights responsible for drinking water and sanitation, in his preparation of the Guidelines on the Realisation of the Right to Drinking Water and Sanitation, ultimately adopted by the Sub-Commission at its 58th session (7 July – 25 August 2006). On 22 March 2005 – World Water Day – the COHRE Right to Water Programme and the German Foreign Office hosted a parallel event at the 61st session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland.

COHRE has been engaged in work on the adoption of the Pinheiro Principles on housing and property restitution in the context of the return of refugees and displaced persons (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/17). At the 53rd (30 July to 17 August 2001) session of the United Nations Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland, COHRE successfully lobbied for the establishment of the Special Rapporteur on housing and property restitution in the context of the return of refugees and others displaced persons. COHRE supported the Special Rapporteur by providing comments on the various drafts of his report at the 54th (29 July – 16 August 2002), 55th

(28 July – 15 August 2003), 56th (26 July – 13 August 2004) and 57th (25 July – 12 August 2005) sessions of the Sub-Commission.

COHRE expertise in economic, social and cultural ("ESC") rights issues in particular countries has benefited United Nations agencies and bodies. In particular, COHRE has actively participated in forums including the following during 2003-2006:

- Commission on Human Rights, Geneva (all sessions 2003-2005). COHRE interventions included those on the topics of housing rights generally; housing, land and property restitution in the context of displacement; the right to water and sanitation; the draft Optional Protocol to the ICESCR.
- Human Rights Council, Geneva (all sessions 2006). COHRE interventions included those on the topics of housing rights generally; housing, land and property restitution in the context of displacement; the right to water and sanitation; the draft Optional Protocol to the ICESCR.
- Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Geneva (all sessions 2003-2005). COHRE interventions included those on housing rights; housing, land and property restitution in the context of displacement; and the right to water and sanitation.
- Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Geneva (all sessions 2003-2006). COHRE has assisted the work of the Committee with oral and written interventions including Shadow Reports on the human rights situations in Australia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Greece, India, Israel, Nigeria, Philippines, Thailand and Zambia, as well as topics such as the right to water and sanitation; social security; and non-discrimination.
- Human Rights Committee; COHRE provided intensive oral and written submissions, including Shadow Reports on housing rights issues in Kenya, Sri Lanka and the United States (14 March-1 April 2005, 20 October-7 November 2003, 12-20 July 2006 sessions respectively).
- Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Geneva, (all sessions 2003-2006); COHRE undertook supportive interventions for the Committee's work on discrimination issues in Argentina, Botswana, Brazil, Guatemala, Ireland, as well as on draft General Comment concerning discrimination and housing.
- Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, New York; COHRE provided the Committee with input on matters related to women and the right to water (consultations with individual Committee Members, 12 June 2004; 21 September 2004; 2 February 2005).

COHRE also provided extensive written materials on various factual and legal/conceptual matters to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Secretariat; to Special Rapporteurs on Rights to Adequate Housing, Health, Food, Racism and Racial Discrimination, and Human Rights Defenders; as well as to the Special Representative on Minority Issues. Finally COHRE has, during the period 2003-2006, engaged confidential procedures on consistent patterns of gross human rights violations in Israel and Nigeria.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters:

COHRE work in the areas set out under section ii) include intensive close consultative work on a number of issues with agencies including United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Human Settlements Programme and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Matters of frequent interface include forced evictions; right to water and sanitation; housing, land and property restitution for displaced persons and refugees; and women's human rights (including women and the right to water).

2. Human Relief Foundation

(Special consultative status: 2003)

Part I

HRF is a charity based in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (registration no: 1043676). Established in 1991 with its head office in the city of Bradford (United Kingdom) and branches in London, Birmingham, Glasgow (United Kingdom), Iraq (Baghdad, Mosul), Pakistan (Islamabad), Kashmir (Muzzafarabad), the Netherlands (Rotterdam), Jordan (Amman), Sudan (Khartoum), Mozambique (Maputo) and Azerbaijan (Baku). It has an annual turnover of £3 ($5.5) million (2005-2006) per year and was established by a group of committed and dedicated volunteers to provide emergency relief aid and assistance to poor and developing countries. It is currently managed by a Board of Trustees, Management Committee and has a team of 30 full-time and part-time offices & field workers across its offices and branches.

Vision/Mission- we aspire to achieve the following:

Alleviation of suffering and hardship for those most in need across the world

- To save and preserve life during emergencies and the immediate aftermath of natural and man-made disasters which have entailed major loss of life, material damage, physical destruction, psychological damage and social upheaval and suffering.
- To carry out short-term rehabilitation and reconstruction work in close conjunction with local agencies and partners with a view to facilitate the delivery of relief, limit damage and begin to help those affected regain a minimum level of self-sufficiency.
- To carry out long-term development programmes involving recipient communities to improve the living standards of people in need and ensure long-term sustainability.

Part II: Contribution to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in Conferences

1. The Director and the Project Manager of the Foundation attended the 56th Annual DPI/NGO Conference 8 – 10 September 2003, New York. The theme was (Human Security and Dignity: Fulfilling the Promise of the United Nations).

2. Our Representative has attended the 50th Session of the Commission in the Status of Women) from 27 February to 10 March 2006, New York.

3. We attended various conferences where United Nations representatives were present and participated in talks and lectures, such as the conference on the 10th Anniversary of the Code of Conduct of the International Red Cross and Crescent Society at The Hague, on 20 September 2004. Also the ' Aid and Trade' exhibition and workshops in Geneva, February 2006 conducted by the International Aid and Trade Organisation; where many United Nations representatives attended and they took part in the exhibition and workshops.

ii) Co-operation with UN agencies in the field

(a) In Iraq HRF made contact with UNICEF (office based in Amman/Jordan) concerning the implementation of various projects in Iraq such as schools, child security, health and hygiene issues. We also established contact with UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) in Geneva concerning the support and assistance in relation to the issue of the Iraqi displaced people inside Iraq and in the neighbouring countries (Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic).

(b) In Kashmir HRF responded to the earthquake in October 2005 and opened a camp in the city of Muzzafarabad for the displaced people who lost their homes. The camp was visited by the former UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan. The HRF has been in contact with various United Nations agencies in Kashmir concerning the support to the camp (UNICEF, WHO, World Food Programme).

(c) Dubai – The HRF participated in the DIHAD (Dubai International Humanitarian Aid and Development) in 2005,2006 - continuing

(d) Sudan – We work with various humanitarian organisations based in Sudan such as Global Health Foundation who have links with United Nations agencies in delivering aid and assistance to the people of Sudan.

iii) Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals (MDG's)

HRF are currently engaged in a broad range of activities across three continents which support the MDG's. HRF has been involved in many projects ranging from education programmes, health, and social-care and water purification projects. The countries and areas we have worked in are Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Turkey, Chechnya, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Kashmir, Palestine, Bangladesh, India, Lebanon, Somalia, Iraq, Pakistan, Egypt, Yemen and Sudan. We have delivered the following:

- Providing medicines & medical supplies to hospitals & clinics June 2003, April 2004, September 2006, February 2007
- Construction and rehabilitation of medical centres June 2004, February 2006
- Sending medical teams to provide treatment and perform operations and to deliver lectures and seminars December 2004 , June 2005
- Developing a midwives training project in Southern Sudan and Darfur to improve the reproductive health of local women May 2006
- Rehabilitation and refurbishment of schools May 2003, October 2005, August 2006

- Development of a primary school project in Kashmir November 2005, March 2006
- Providing educational supplies such as textbooks, periodicals and CD's May 2003, October 2005
- The digging and building of water wells (both deep and shallow wells) May 2005, September 2005
- Rehabilitation and maintenance of water purification plants and water pumps February 2006
- Distributing of water into peoples homes via local networks March 2005
- Involving local people in the management of water resources. September 2005
- Support to the Disabled institutions January 2006
- Providing workshops for skilled manual careers, i.e. courses in plumbing, mechanics, electrics and joinery June 2004, August 2005, April 2006
- Improving living conditions in nursing and elderly homes September 2005
- Micro-credit projects April 2004
- Currently sponsoring over 2000 poor families (years 2003 – 2006)
- Over 250 widows sponsored increasing to 500 (years 2003 – 2006)
- Around 6,000 orphans supported in Iraq, Palestine, Lebanon & Sudan (years 2003-2006)
- Support to displaced Iraqis in the Syrian Arab Republic June 2007
- Shipment of 50 containers from the United Kingdom to Iraq consisting of various medical supplies collected from United Kingdom hospitals worth approximately £5 ($10) million (years 2003 – 2006)
- Sponsoring over 2000 poor families and 250 widows sponsored in Iraq (years 2003 – 2006)
- Support to hospitals in Baghdad and Mosul as well as a cancer department in Baghdad and construction of Maternity Units in many parts of Iraq (years 2003 – 2006)
- Provided medical supplies in some of the worse hit areas in Lebanon August 2006
- Strengthened its capacity in Lebanon and conducted a limited assessment, particularly of schools that were used as temporary shelters for displaced people August 2006
- A donation of £40,000 ($70,000) was given to Mercy Malaysia where they were able to facilitate the construction of 32 semi-permanent houses March 2005
- A fully equipped ambulance provided which serves 12,000 people March 2005
- Set up a 2000-people tent-based village in Muzzafarabad, Kashmir November 2005
- HRF established clinics and employed nurses in Kashmir February 2006

Activities in support of Global Principles:

HRF have extensively promoted human rights through its activities, promotions, and marketing and dissemination activities since 2003. Our core commitment has been to distribute aid and support to all people irrespective of difference in race, ethnicity, faith, gender and any other difference.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council

HRF have aimed to participate as fully as possible in the work of the Economic and Social Council and are committed to increasing their involvement in the forthcoming years.

HRF would have performed more effectively if the following were facilitated:

- Better communication with United Nations workers- on many occasions there has been poor communication between HRF and United Nations staff.
- Information on meetings often arrives late giving very short notice to attend and this needs to be improved and a greater number of meetings need to occur in Europe to facilitate access and attendance.
- Attending international meetings can also be costly and our primary aim is to maximise expenditure on direct relief and development work.
- HRF are committed to increasing their involvement with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and are keen to maintain their consultative status with them.

3. International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus

(Special consultative: 1991)

Part I: Introduction

The mission of the International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (IF) is to improve the quality of life of people Spina Bifida and/or Hydrocephalus throughout the world and to decrease the prevalence of Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus by primary prevention.

It does so by being and further developing a network of knowledge and finding ways to disseminate this knowledge (including publications, conferences, websites) and by initiating and running projects of prevention, human rights, training and treatment and rehabilitation of people with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus.

Changes in the constitution

The constitution of IF was changed to be in line with the new legislation on (international) not-for-profit organisations in Belgium at the General Meeting in Minneapolis, United States of America on 28 June 2005. The major aims of the organisation remained the same, however, while in the process of making the constitution in line with the legislation, some changes, outlined below, were embedded. The internal rules of the organisations were changed to be in line with the new constitution and were accepted by the General Meeting in Helsinki, Finland on 29 June 2006.

The main changes were that organisations for/of people with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus do not have to be national organisations to become a member (i.e. to cover one geographical country) but that they can be regional or transnational.

Secondly, international solidarity between people with the disability in the North and the South was written in the organisations purpose (article 3 of the constitution).

Thirdly, the leadership (voluntary board membership) has become limited in time (three terms of 2 years), thus involving the members more in the decision making process.

Membership grew to 32 (national and regional) members in 2006.

Part II

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Due to the small size of the organisation, IF is mostly represented by the European Disability Forum in negotiations related to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People. Therefore, it has not cooperated with the United Nations as fully as might be expected, as it directs its resources to work in developing countries. IF does always communicate its United Nations status in all publications.

Independently, IF has worked through the World Health Organisation to develop a manual for midlevel rehabilitation workers to work with children with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. IF's network of experts has formulated feedback on the manual. The network will also provide experts to review the World Report on Disability, to be published in 2009.

Reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)

The work of IF is, for the moment, concentrated in 8 projects of treatment and rehabilitation of children with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus and training on all levels (from the child to the neurosurgeon) in 6 East-African countries, namely in Karthoum, Sudan; Kijabe, Kenya; Kampala and Mbale, Uganda; Blantyre, Malawi; Lusaka, Zambia and Moshi and Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania. Shunts, knowledge and experts are being sent to about 30 places worldwide. The organisation is expanding both in size (financially) and in geographical area.

The rights of children with a disability are being violated to an enormous respect. If the world wants to reach the MDG , more emphasis needs to be put on children with disabilities. IF is a human rights advocate with many an achievement, both in the North as in the South. IF therefore welcomes the new United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to which IF contributed though the board membership of the European Disability Forum (EDF).

Only 2% of the children with a disability get a proper education: IF encourages and facilitates parents to come up locally for their child, both for the treatment and rehabilitation as for social rights as education. This will be a new theme in the coming years, as children survive and become continent (which is a major social problem for children with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus).

Since mothers of children with a disability have a higher risk of being excluded from society, IF encourages mothers by training and bringing them together to care for their disabled and other children. IF has just begun monitoring the amount of parent group meetings and attendance in its

projects. Anecdotic, but nevertheless a milestone: the recently established parent group of Moshi, United Republic of Tanzania, filed a complaint against a government run hospital, operating in substandard conditions. As a result, the hospital will train its surgeons and supporting staff.

People with a disability have a higher risk of being poor. IF helps them by financing material for treatment and rehabilitation, and training for stakeholders on all levels (children, parents, nurses, to doctors and surgeons). The amount of shunts to treat hydrocephalus (implant device to evacuate Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF)) delivered to projects has been increasing with more than 30% a year to 2500 in 2006. This is without counting the increasing number of Endoscopic Third Ventriculostomy (ETV) operations, which is an alternative to shunts, with 324 operations executed in 2006.

Activities in Support of Global Principles

People with the two impairments are represented by IF at the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the World Health Organisation, the European Commission and other institutions.

IF is a Human Rights organisation. Human rights, according to IF, include the right to life and the right treatment and rehabilitation. During the reporting period, IF has developed three important policy statements on "Prevention of Neural Tube Defects and Mandatory Food Fortification", on "Prenatal Diagnosis and the Right to be Different" and, lastly, on "Active Termination of Life of Newborn Children with Spina Bifida and/or Hydrocephalus and the Right to Live". The last two have been generalized to all disabilities and to all European countries by the EDF working group on Human Rights and accepted at the EDF General Assemblies in Athens, May 2003, and Rome, May 2006.

IF has facilitated research with publications in the Journal of Neurosurgery, Paediatrics on 4 occasions in 2005.

IF itself organises an annual conference, meetings and workshops throughout the world. Concerning the reporting period, the most important ones were (most recent first): 16-18 October 2006: "Continence Management" in Kijabe, Kenya; 29 June-2 July 2006: "Access" in Helsinki; 24-30 March 2006: "Continence Management" together with Handicap International Viet Nam in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam; 28-29 October 2005: "Parent Work" in Nairobi, Kenya; 26-29 June 2005: "Building Bridges" in Minneapolis, United States of America; 20-21 May 2005: "Ethics" in Oostduinkerke, Belgium; 18-20 November 2004: "Hydrocephalus" in Mbale, Uganda; 2-5 September 2004: "Crossing Borders" in Oslo, Norway; 20-22 November 2003: "Neurogenic Bladder" in Moshi, United Republic of Tanzania. In these meetings, IF took the lead in organising, providing lecturers and publications and financing participation. (Local) meetings where the international volunteers and staff were present with only a lecture or as participants are not counted in this list as they are too numerous.

A major external evaluation of the projects took place in 10-19 October 2006, by an Norwegian external evaluator and a Belgian medical expert on Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. Recommendations are being implemented.

Annual reports, financial reports, financial audits, results of projects in developing countries, conference proceedings, conclusion of the evaluation can all be obtained at the IF secretariat.

4. Mandat International

(Special consultative: 2003)

Part I – Introduction

(i) Purpose of the organization:

- To promote dialogue and international cooperation;
- To welcome, brief and assist non-governmental delegates and to facilitate their participation in international conferences;
- To provide support services to delegates from developing countries and find budget accommodations for them with a view to achieving a more balanced geographical representation of civil society.

(ii) - Amendments:

On 26 April 2004, the status of Mandat International was changed to "public-interest foundation". The change is designed to facilitate efforts to raise the necessary funds to provide support services to delegates from developing countries. The purposes of the organization remain unchanged but were rewritten to place emphasis on the need for the equitable participation of developing countries in international conferences, greater youth participation and the importance of dialogue between government and non-governmental delegates. Mandat International relies on the skills and experience of the members of its international network and on its own Consultative Committee, which brings together well-known experts in all fields of international cooperation.

- Mandat International also enjoys consultative status with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- Through a partnership Mandat International has developed with the World Bank, delegates from developing countries can access World Bank documents free of charge;
- Mandat International joined the United Nations Global Compact in 2007.

Part II- Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Since it was granted consultative status, Mandat International has participated in many United Nations meetings and has made the following contributions:

(i) - Contribution to the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

- On 8 December 2003, Mandat International organized a "Consultative meeting on cooperation between NGOs of developing countries and the United Nations system" at the Palais des Nations in Geneva exclusively for NGOs from developing countries in different parts of the world. Participants worked on the elaboration and adoption of significant proposals for inclusion in the Cardoso report on United Nations reforms. Those recommendations are still relevant and could be of interest to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. The report on the meeting is available on the Internet in French (http://www.mandint.org/doc/8decfr.pdf), English (http://www.mandint.org/doc/8decen.pdf) and Spanish (http://www.mandint.org/doc/8deces.pdf).

- Mandat International regularly follows the work of the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations. During the twenty-first session of the Working Group, held in Geneva from 21 to 25 July, Mandat International organized a panel on "Fair Trade and Indigenous Populations". In July 2005 and 2006, Mandat International organized Cultural Days for Indigenous Peoples in conjunction with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Swiss Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to increase awareness of the work of the Economic and Social Council for indigenous populations and to highlight the rich contribution of indigenous peoples to world culture.

- Since 2006, Mandat International has participated in the NGO/Civil Society Forum preparations for the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council.

- Through its Welcome Centre for Non-Governmental Organizations and Delegations, Mandat International offers support services to nearly 1,000 delegates every year (from approximately 110 countries), mainly from the developing countries, making it easier for them to participate, on a more regular basis, in the meetings of the organizations of the United Nations system. Thus, every year, Mandat International provides support to nearly 80 United Nations international conferences, including many that are directly related to the work of the Economic and Social Council.

- Mandat International has issued a number of trilingual information guides (English/French/Spanish) which facilitate NGO participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council, in particular "Delegate's Guide" and "Guide on International Organizations". These Guides are available on its Internet site (www.mandint.org).

- Mandat International coordinates the Information Platform (www.ngo-info.org) which enables more than 500 NGOs from more than 80 countries, mainly developing countries, to cooperate and carry out joint projects, particularly development projects. Thanks to its consultative status, Mandat International participates in meetings of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and then briefs NGOs from developing countries on progress in the work of the United Nations. Every year, it places about 70 conference summaries online.

(ii) Contribution to other United Nations bodies

- Mandat International participated in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on the Information Society, held from 17 to 28 February and 15 to 26 September 2003, and in the Summit itself, held from 10 to 12 December 2003 in Geneva. Mandat International supported the participation of NGOs from the South and presented the recommendations of the Working Group on the Information Society of the World Civil Society Forum, held in Geneva from 14 to 20 July 2002.

- In 2006, Mandat International, capitalizing on its experience with the United Nations, launched a new education programme to introduce young people between 12 and 18 years of age to the work of the United Nations system. More than 700 students have already made visits and attended meetings under this programme. Twelve thematic files will soon be available to students all over the world on the Internet.

- In 2004, Mandat International organized consultations on cooperation between NGOs and international organizations.

(iii) - Contributions to the Millennium Development Goals

Mandat International facilitates the participation of NGOs from developing countries in the elaboration and follow-up of policies for realizing the Millennium Development Goals. Mandat International fully supports these Goals and contributes to furthering a number of aspects of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in particular the promotion of international law through a legal search engine on the Internet (www.whatconvention.org) which it has developed to facilitate access to international norms. This tool will be progressively extended to all branches of international law (humanitarian, health, environmental, development).

These gratifying efforts in support of the work of the United Nations and the successes achieved would not have been possible if the organization did not enjoy consultative status. Mandat International wishes to thank the members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations for their support and their confidence and to assure them of its strong commitment to helping to attain the goals and objectives of the United Nations.

5. New Japan Women's Association

(Special Consultative: 2003)

Part I. Introduction

The New Japan Women's Association (NJWA) is a Japanese non-governmental organization (NGO) established in 1962, at the call of 32 prominent women who were writers, women's rights activists, artists, and actresses. NJWA works for five major objectives: 1) To abolish nuclear weapons; 2) To ensure adherence to the Japanese Constitution which declares the renunciation of war; 3) To promote the rights and advancement of women and children; 4) To promote democracy; and 5) To develop international solidarity for world peace.

The NJWA national office (headquarters) coordinates activities carried out by 200,000 members who belong to the organization's 10,000 basic unit organized in workplaces and communities including rural areas throughout the country. NJWA has chapters in all the 47 prefectures and branches in 880 municipalities, and organizes 27,000 club activities. It has 300,000 subscribers to its weekly organ paper called Shinfujin Shimbun. NJWA is the largest individual membership-based women's group in Japan.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

The organization's representative attended the following sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) held in New York, the United States of America:

The 48th Session, 1-12 March 2004;

The 49th Session (Beijing + 10), 28 February -11 March 2005;

The 50th Session, 27 February -10 March 2006.

In 2004, a representative of NJWA attended the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) high-level meetings held in Bangkok, Thailand in preparation for Beijing + 10 from 5 to 12 September.

In 2003, a representative of NJWA attended the 29th Session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), New York, from 30 June to 18 July.

In 2005, two representatives of NJWA attended the Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, New York, from 2 to 27 May as members of the Japan Council against Atomic & Hydrogen Bombs delegation.

ii) Activities in support of the United Nations and Global Principles

The organization's activities in support of the United Nations have not been in a direct manner such as co-sponsoring meetings, seminars and projects. However, on every occasion of attending the Commission on the Status of Women and other United Nations meetings, NJWA representative brings a report, statement and other useful material, and co-sponsors Peace Caucus together with representatives of women's groups from different countries. In this way it contributes to the collective effort of NGOs for the successful outcomes of the meetings held by the Untied Nations bodies. The report prepared for the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, NY: "TEN YEARS AFTER BEIJING: STILL MORE PROMISES THAN PROGRESS 1995-2005: Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action," which was published in February 2005 includes many proposals made by the NJWA.

Every year, NJWA observes the International Women's Day. It publishes a series of related articles and information in its weekly organ paper and monthly magazines, and co-sponsors the International Day of Women meetings or seminars at both national and local levels.

Placing abolition of nuclear weapons on top of the organization's major objectives, NJWA calls for the establishment of an international order of peace based on the Charter of the United Nations. To this end, it undertakes various activities in cooperation with NGOs both at home and abroad. On 13 May 2006, NJWA sponsored the International Women's Symposium on Peace, to which it invited as panelists representatives of NGOs in special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council; General Secretary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) and Co-representative of the Korean Women's Associations United (KWAU), along with a member of the September the 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows, the United States of America. The symposium provided a great opportunity for 320 people coming from different parts of the country to attend it, including representatives of women's and peace organizations, as well as many NJWA members to learn about the role of the United Nations and NGOs working together for conflict prevention and peace making, and about the significance of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. On the question of nuclear abolition, NJWA takes active part in the World Conference against Atomic & Hydrogen Bombs held every August in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in which many government representatives, NGOs and individuals

including Hibakusha, survivors of the atomic bombing, assemble to have dialogues, meetings, and workshops discussing the way to achieve the goal of eliminating nuclear weapons.

On the rights and advancement of women, NJWA takes every opportunity to make proposals of its own or as a member of the International Women's Year Liaison Group, Japan's biggest network organization of women's groups in special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council to the Japanese Government for the promotion of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and all the agreements that have been made in the follow-up meetings as well as in other relevant conferences.

Regarding the initiatives undertaken in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals, NJWA has not carried out specific projects or initiatives. However, it provides as much information as possible to its members and organ paper readers on the meaning and significance of these goals by publishing articles on the weekly organ paper and organizing seminars. NJWA also supports and assists the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Association pour le développement economique, social, environnemental du nord

(Special; 2003)

I. Introduction

L'Association pour le developpement economique, social, environnemental du nord (ADESEN) pursues the following objectives:

- to promote economic and social development,
- to defend and protect the environment,
- to promote the rights of children.

In other words, the fight against poverty and protection of the environment are the two pillars on which the work of ADESEN is based.

Advocacy activities are also an important part of the actions carried out by ADESEN in order to achieve its objectives.

The objectives of ADESEN may also be found in the different activities of the United Nations, in particular, in the various Plans of Action adopted by the major United Nations conferences on social development, sustainable development, financing for development, promotion of women, development of the least developed countries, and the Millennium Development Goals.

In order to increase the effectiveness of its work, ADESEN has joined several international networks of NGOs that support the work of the United Nations, including the following:

- FAN (Freshwater Action Network) www.freshwateraction.net, which was created after the second World Water Forum in March 2000. FAN helps NGOs in countries of the South that deal with issues relating to water and sanitation problems in order to enable them to send representatives to international water forums and make their voices heard.

- Social Watch, www.socialwatch.org. Social Watch is an international network that publishes a yearly report on the status of commitments undertaken by governments at the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen 1995, and the World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995, with a view to eradicating poverty and promoting gender equality throughout the world. The network was established the day after the Copenhagen Summit for Social Development in 1995. It has general consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

II. Contribution to activities of the United Nations Organization

Social development and gender equality

- Contribution to the 2004 annual Social Watch report on progress made in the implementation of commitments undertaken at the World Summit on Social Development, Copenhagen 1995, and the World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995.

ADESEN reported on the status of implementation of the commitments undertaken in Copenhagen and Beijing by the State of Senegal.

- Participation in the Beijing Plus 10 conference and the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 28 February-11 March 2005, New York.

Sustainable development

Actions: Advocacy for rational and sustainable management of natural resources through education, information and communication.

Organization of art contests in schools on subjects relating to environmental protection.

In the context of the International Year of Deserts and Desertification (2006), we started reforesting programmes in conjunction with 18 (eighteen) village communities and grassroots organizations. Fifty thousand (50,000) trees were planted with the support of the Ministry of the Environment.

The programmes had an 85% success rate; follow-up is being carried out by the populations.

- Launching of a water and environmental management project in the context of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life" (2005-2015) in the Saint-Louis region. The first phase of the project involved sending missions to establish contact and provide information for civil society organizations working in the Senegal River Basin in connection with the preparation and implementation of the GEE project (Gestion de l'Eau et de l'Environnement du basin du fleuve Sénégal - Senegal River Basin Water and Environmental Management Programme).

The second phase included the development of a common strategy to enable the organizations to respond to the interests and concerns of the organizations along the Senegal River Basin.

The objective is to consolidate the expansion of partnerships of civil society organizations with a view to ensuring a better future for the communities alongside the Senegal River.

Good communication with the grassroots organizations and the local populations, in order to develop goals for protecting the natural resources and promoting sustainable development all along the Senegal River.

- Participation in the fifty-seventh Annual Conference of the Department of Public Information for Non-Governmental Organizations (Annual DPI/NGO Conference), 8-10 September 2004.

Financing for Development

Microfinance programme for women in the town of Saint-Louis, Sénégal: Mutual Credit. This programme provides microcredit so as to reduce the impact of poverty on women.

- Millennium Development Goals

Achieve universal primary education

Goal 3: To ensure that children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a f course of primary schooling.

ADESEN distributed notebooks and writing pads to primary school students.

Goal 5: To improve maternal health

ADESEN carried out activities to provide information, education and communications on maternal health in the villages. A total of forty-eight (48) villages were visited, and informat was provided on:

- AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases
- Child health
- Spacing of births

- Activities in support of global principles

Every year ADESEN takes part in the activities to celebrate important dates, such as:

World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought,

World Environment Day,

World Day for Water,

World AIDS Day.

The celebrations are held in conjunction with the Senegalese State offices in charge of the departments concerned (environment, health, water).

These celebrations include theatre performances to raise awareness among the population, posters, and public lectures in national languages.

ADESEN would like to increase its participation in conferences organized by the United Nations, but budgetary constraints sometimes prevent it from doing so.

2. Australian Council for International Development

(Special; 1999)

Part I. Introduction

(i) The Australian Council for International Development's (ACFID) vision is to promote conditions of sustainable human development in which people are able t enjoy a full range of human rights, fulfil their needs free from poverty, and live in dignity. ACFID's purpose is to facilitate the contribution by member agencies to promote sustainable development by: promoting high standards of ethics and organisational practice; promoting cooperation among members and between ther

and external stakeholders; representing the interests of members with Government and other stakeholders; and promoting an understanding of development and related issues within the Australian community.

(ii)

a. Constitutional changes
There have been numerous changes to the ACFID Rules and Objects (Constitution). In 2003, ACFID changed its name from the Australian Council for Overseas Aid. In 2004, the Constitution was changed to allow for new or changed clauses in the ACFID Code of Conduct. In 2005, the Constitution was changed to allow: the task of appointing auditor to be moved from Council to the ACFID Board; for a new fee structure to be adopted; and for additional changes to Code of Conduct.

b. Funding changes – In 2006 ACFID introduced a new membership fee structure to ensure a more equitable system for our members based on the scale of their operations.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.

ACFID has used its Special Consultative status to send representatives to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Executive Committee (ExCom) meetings, and NGO Consultations (held prior to the ExCom).

From 29 September–3 October 2003 in Geneva, Switzerland, ACFID had one representative at the ExCom meeting. In 2004 (27 September–8 October) in Geneva, Switzerland, ACFID had two representatives at the ExCom meeting. In 2005, (24 September-7 October) ACFID had two representatives at ExCom in Geneva, Switzerland. In 2006 (27 September–6 October) ACFID had three representatives, at the ExCom in Geneva Switzerland, who presented their research 28 September 2006 at the Annual NGO Consultations at a session together with the Lutheran World Federation and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, entitled *Challenges of Return: Rights and sustainable solutions*.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

In 2005, ACFID liaised closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Regional Representative and the Chief of the United Nations Joint Logistics Centre to be present at a conference reflecting on the United Nation's involvement in humanitarian responses. The involvement of such senior representatives was very well received and appreciated. Also in 2005, ACFID visited the United Nations World Food Programme NGO Liaison Unit in Rome to develop a direct relationship with the Unit, and to also learn more about their relationships with Australian NGOs. In 2006, ACFID hosted a meeting for members

with the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which now form the basis of the global agenda for the 21st century.

ACFID has housed the Australian Make Poverty History (MPH) campaign since 2005. On July 1, 2005 a million people in more than 70 countries around the world called on their leaders to live up to their commitments to halve poverty by 2015. This was the first global Make Poverty History 'white band' day and in Australia we unfurled a giant Make Poverty History banner from Sydney Harbour Bridge, and used giant white letters spelling out "Make Poverty History" in Melbourne.

During 2005 more than 150,000 Australians bought white bands and thousands joined in campaign activities. This included writing or emailing Parliamentarians and the Prime Minister calling on the Australian government to be at the forefront of renewed world efforts to make poverty history.

On June 18th 2005 MPH launched the controversial "Click" Ad. The "click campaign" (banned in England), featuring celebrities clicking their fingers to signify the death of a child every three seconds.

On August 26th 2005, MPH delivered 25,000 postcards to the Prime Minister in the lead up to the September United Nations Millennium Summit at United Nations Headquarters in New York City. On 10 September 2005, White Band Day 2 saw hundreds of thousands of people mobilise to encourage the Prime Minister to present a plan for Australia to meet its commitments to the MDGs. The Prime Minister then announced that Australia would increase its level of international aid to $4 billion by 2010, bringing its level of aid up from 0.25% to 0.36% of GNI.

On November 14th and 15th 2005, 200 Australians under the age of 25, from all over the country, descended on the national capital for 2 days. The youth representatives met with 70 politicians, with the youth united in the push for more and better aid, debt cancellation and fairer trade.

During 2006 MPH activities and supporters continued to grow. The campaign attracted 50,000 new active supporters who wrote or emailed 10,000 letters to federal politicians. In October, 92,000 Australians in 321 locations across the country took part in 'stand up for poverty' activities. The Australian activities were part of a global day of action that saw 23 million people demand an end to extreme poverty.

On November 17th 2006 to coincide with the G20 meetings being held in Melbourne, MPH organised a concert that was attended by 14,000 people and telecast to a further quarter of a million, to raise further awareness of the MDGs.

3. International Multiracial Shared Cultural Organization

(Special; 1995)

PART I: Introduction

International Multiracial Shared Cultural Organization (IMSCO) was established to promote and develop major and medium size shared business cultural exchange programmes. IMSCO works towards eradicating poverty and economic apartheid between the North and the South, and to promote the establishment of a New International Economic Order.

IMSCO acts as a service and linking institution for marginalized indigenous and Diaspora peoples linking developing and developed businesses and related projects that serve business culture, making every effort with its limited resources to assist in the success of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. The geographical membership of IMSCO was increased by 15 million individuals that support IMSCO / United Nations aims in Cameroon. IMSCO has adopted the policy to offer free membership for all. Therefore, IMSCO membership is expected to increase significantly.

PART II: Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) United Nations Meetings Attended

2003: IMSCO prepared a document for Secretary-General Kofi Annan, calling on the Secretary-General to appoint an African Diaspora Special Envoy to assist in the African development project, 2 June.

2004: IMSCO supported NGO/Civil Society recommendations to the high level of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC.) IMSCO also worked on mobilizing resources and enabling an environment for poverty eradication in order to implement a program of action for the least developed countries for the decade 2001-2010. IMSCO collaborated with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to make clean drinking water available in poor areas of developing countries. IMSCO worked with the Division for Social Policy and Development at the UN Headquarters, New York, on 4 February and took part in the panel on Women, Democracy and Islam at the UN Headquarters, New York, on 2 June. IMSCO representatives attended a meeting on "The Emerging Recommendation of the UN Millennium Project" on 9 November. IMSCO representatives attended the twelfth session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD 12), where discussions were held on basic water needs and the role of water in sanitation and human settlements, 29 April. IMSCO also attended the twenty-ninth session of the industrial development board of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, at the Vienna International Centre in Austria, 9 November.

2005: IMSCO wrote and published a document titled *In Larger Freedom Millennium Goals* in support of United Nations Secretary-General's report-high-level plenary meeting of the 60th session of the General Assembly. IMSCO attended the Department of Economic and Social Affairs "Development Conference on Socio-Economic Policies for Achieving the Millennium

Development Goals", at the UN Headquarters, New York, on 14 March. IMSCO representatives attended the Economic and Social Council's preparatory meeting of the 2005 Economic and Social Council High-Level Segment on "Achieving the internationally agreed development goals Millennium Declaration," UN Headquarters, New York, 16 March.

2006: IMSCO representatives traveled to the Congo and the Sudan to sign agreements and follow up on agreements signed in both countries to promote co-development in business culture between African people in Africa and the African Diaspora, 16-24 January. At the Summit in Khartoum, the Sudan, the Chairman of IMSCO attended and lobbied the African Union representatives for closer cooperation with Africans in the Diaspora, 16-24 January. IMSCO representatives attended the 59th Annual DPI/NGO reception conference: "Unfinished business: Effective Partnerships for Human Security and Sustainable Development," UN Headquarters, New York, 6 September.

ii) Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Between 2003 and 2006 Representatives of IMSCO traveled a number of times to Congo, the Sudan and Cameroon to promote United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

2003-2006: In the Congo IMSCO continued to press for the release of 0.5 million barrels of crude oil granted to the people of the Congo and the impoverished Africans in the American Diaspora, via IMSCO's economic wing, African Mineral Resource Exchange (AMRE) Trade Oil Inc. IMSCO has enlisted the cooperation of the United States Department of State to assist IMSCO in removing a number of roadblocks preventing the release of the crude oil now past due to be shared with African people's natural trading partners and oppressed communities. IMSCO established plans to extend projects to enlist World Bank and projects for achievement of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPCs), which were established by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). This followed the document, IMSCO Comments for "In Larger Freedom," requested by United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, on 4 May 2005.

2004-2005: IMSCO was invited by the people of Cameroon to establish the organization. IMSCO introduced the organization on national TV, radio, and print media, promoting the United Nations' goals.

2005-2006: The people's representatives of **Darfur, in the Sudan** invited IMSCO Officials to assist in creating an economic infrastructure to help manage and market the vital Natural Gum or "Gum Arabic." This vital resource, "Gum Arabic," is grown only in central Africa with 80% of the world's supply coming from the Sudan. On 22 March 2006, IMSCO acting in cooperation with AMRE Trade Oil Inc., the economic arm of IMSCO, and representatives of the farmers including representatives of the people of Darfur in the Sudan, signed a co-development agreement to harvest and transport the Natural Gum / Gum Arabic in accordance with the United States Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006. Support for this important contract came from the Government of the United States of America via the United States of America's Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC). IMSCO trusts that the Congo and Sudan agreements between Africans and the Africans in the Diaspora will act as a model for other

United Nations and Non-Governmental Organizations. In 2003, IMSCO teamed up with the health institution "Our Health Today" in New York, NY to fight HIV/AIDS in New York City. IMSCO collaborated on the making of the motion picture "Man In The Mirror" starring Martin Sheen and Academy Award nominee Michael Dunn and Johnny Brown, which is being released worldwide in 2007. The film looks at causes of neglect and marginalization in global society today and suggests ways that diverse cultures can now work together to solve most of their problems instead of waiting for unconcerned governments to do it for them. When released on DVD, TV, the internet, and cinemas, the film could reach billions of people who are concerned with the success of the United Nations **Millennium Development Goals.** The producers of the film and IMSCO believe that Star power and the arts can be recruited to do much to assist UN aims.

4. New York County Lawyers' Association

(Special; 2003)

Part I: Introduction

The New York County Lawyers' Association (NYCLA), established in 1908, is a bar association operated exclusively for charitable and education purposes. Its primary objectives are to promote the effective administration of justice and legal reforms that advance the public interest; elevate the professionalism, integrity, competence and honor of the legal profession; and provide free legal services for the indigent and people in need.

To carry out its mission, NYCLA sponsors a broad array of activities, including the following: supports 65 committees whose members focus on legal, legislative and public policy issues and on particular areas of legal practice; operates pro bono programs where volunteer attorneys provide free legal advice and counseling on topics such as family law, employment law, housing law and bankruptcy law; organizes programs such as free public forums where current local, national and international topics are discussed; holds continuing legal education programs for lawyers to improve their skills and knowledge of ethical obligations; issues reports on topics ranging from international treaty obligations to court reform to immigration policies; and publishes a variety of resources from newsletters to ethics opinions to guides for practicing attorneys and manuals for young people about their rights and responsibilities.

Part II: Contribution of NYCLA to the work of the United Nations

1) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

i) 2004: On 5 March 2004, a representative attended, at UN Headquarters, a briefing for NGOs during the 48th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women and a briefing by the delegation of the United States of America.

ii) 2005: On 24 January 2005, a representative attended, at UN Headquarters, the 28th Special Session of the General Assembly for the Commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Nazi Concentration Camps.

iii) 2005: On 19-21 July 2005, a representative attended, at UN Headquarters, "From Reaction to Prevention: Civil Society Forging Partnerships to Prevent Violent Conflict and Build Peace."

iv) 2005: On 7 December 2005, a representative attended, at UN Headquarters, "Rearing Its Ugly Head: The Resurgence of Torture in the 21st Century and the Struggle to Combat It."

The organization has not participated more extensively in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and in conferences or other United Nations meetings in this period as it has concentrated on educating its members and the rest of the legal profession about international issues and on sponsoring forums, meetings and conferences to highlight topics of concern to the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations bodies.

2) Initiatives in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals

i) Activities in Support of Goal 3—Promote gender equality and empower women

Under the auspices of the NYCLA Committees on Women's Rights and Foreign and International Law, NYCLA sponsored a number of public forums at which speakers discussed the status of women, in particular violence against women, in different areas of the world, including: 2003 Forum—speaker discussed family violence and government responses in eight countries; 2005 Forum—speakers discussed the status of women in Afghanistan and the problems Afghani women immigrants experience in the United States; 2005 Forum-- Nobel laureate Shirin Ebadi discussed the status of women in the Islamic Republic of Iran and in the Middle East; 2005 Slide Presentation--*National Geographic* photographer Steve McCurry showed slides and discussed the status of women in Afghanistan; 2006 Conference—Representatives of women's organizations and NGO's met and developed a New York City response to the United Nations Secretary-General's In-Depth Study on All Forms of Violence Against Women.

3) Activities in support of global principles

i) The Rule of Law: Under the auspices of the Foreign and International Law Committee, NYCLA sponsored a number of forums and meetings, including: 2003 Forum—speakers discussed the proposed constitution for the European Union; 2006 Forum—speakers discussed the one nation, two systems model of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China and China; 2006 Meetings—NYCLA representatives met with a delegation from the Ministry of Justice of China and with a delegation of judges from the Intellectual Property Division of China.

ii) Nuclear Non-Proliferation: Under the auspices of the Foreign and International Law Committee, NYCLA sponsored the following: 2005 Forum—speakers discussed whether the

current non-proliferation regime can meet challenges effectively; 2006 Report—report issued on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

iii) Reduction in Violence Against Children: Under the auspices of the Law-Related Education Committee and the Children's Rights Committee of the New York Women's Bar Association, NYCLA sponsored the following: 2006 Forum—speakers discussed the 2006 Secretary-General's Study on Violence Against Children and whether existing international and local mechanisms can combat violence against girls and boys.

5. Simon Wiesenthal Center

(Special; 1995)

Part I. Introduction

Founded by its present Dean, Rabbi Marvin Hier, the Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC) is an international Jewish human rights organization comprising a membership of 440,000. Established in Los Angeles in 1977, it applies the lessons of the Holocaust to the analysis of contemporary issues.

The Center carries the name of the Nazi-investigator who brought over 1,100 war criminals to the bar of justice. Still active until his death at 97 in the city of Vienna, his purpose in granting his name to an institution in his own lifetime was in order to prevent a recurrence of the Holocaust for any people. His Center today is international, with offices throughout the United States of America, and also regional bureaus in Toronto, Paris, Jerusalem, and Buenos Aires.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i. Participation in United Nations Meetings

2003: The Center's New York Chief Representative, Mark Weitzman, together with the Center's Director for International Relations, Dr Shimon Samuels, met with twelve of the nineteen Permanent Delegates to the United Nations NGO Committee in New York to present the agenda and activities of the Center, (20 May). The Center's Main Delegate and Director for International Relations, Dr Shimon Samuels, submitted recommendations on the current state of Antisemitism for inclusion in the report of Rapporteur on Racism, Doudou Diene, at the March session of the United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHRC) in Geneva (Item 6: Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance). The late High Commissioner for Human Rights, Sergio Vieira de Mello was keynote Speaker at the 2nd international conference on "Educating for Tolerance: The Case of Resurgent Antisemitism", co-organized in Paris by the Center together with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizaton (UNESCO) in July. The late Sergio Vieira de Mello invited Shimon Samuels as the Expert on Antisemitism at the Regional Expert Seminar for Western States on "Implementation of the Durban Program of Action: An Exchange of Ideas on How to Move Forward," in Brussels, 10-12 December. At this session, the Center's Museum of Tolerance's

"Tools for Tolerance" program was presented as a model for anti-racist action. Our recommendations on containing hate on the Internet and for the United Nations General Assembly to declare 27 January (the date of the liberation of Auschwitz in 1945) as the Annual International Day for the Commemoration of the Holocaust were included, as Number 7, in the Final Recommendations of the Regional Expert Seminar for Western States, which was submitted to the General Assembly. The latter recommendation became reality with the General Assembly Resolution of 2005 to establish this commemorative day.

2004: Mark Weitzman was a panellist at the United Nations first seminar in the "Unlearning Intolerance" series, "Confronting Antisemitism: Education for Tolerance and Understanding" on 21 June, at United Nations Headquarters. Weitzman's remarks were later published in the United Nations Chronicle and made available on the United Nations website. Samuels and the Center's Associate Dean, Rabbi Abraham Cooper, met with newly-appointed United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Louise Arbour, to recommend the nomination of a Rapporteur on Terrorism, with special attention to the new scourge of suicide terrorism, as a violation of the victims' Right to Life on 24 March.

2005: Samuels presented the draft, "Convention to Criminalize Suicide Bombings" to the United Nations Human Rights Council plenary, following its blessing by the late Pope John Paul II (22 March). This Convention has since been supported by the Australian Parliament. On the same date, the Centre organized the United Nations Human Rights Council session lunch side event on "The Resurgence of Antisemitism".

2006: A delegation from the Simon Wiesenthal Center, including a survivor of a suicide bombing, met with Assistant Secretary-General of the Office of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Secretary-General's Director of Communications, at the offices of the Secretariat in New York to discuss international terrorism and events in the Middle East. At the United Nations Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva, The Centre organized a lunch-time side event, together with the International Humanist Ethical Union and the Association of World Education, on "Hezbollah versus Human Rights" (19 September). On the same day, the Center led a delegation of Hezbollah's victims at a meeting with United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights, Louise Arbour.

ii. Cooperation with Specialized Agencies

2003: The second UNESCO – Wiesenthal Center "Educating for Tolerance: The Case of Resurgent Antisemitism" was held in Paris. At that conference, the Center's Humanitarian Prize was awarded to UNESCO Director-General Koïchiro Matsuura (12 July). In October, Director-General Matsuura visited the Center's Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles to mark the tenth anniversary of its opening by his predecessor Federico Mayor. Since then, it has received 4.5 million visitors, and trained over 90,000 law enforcement and military officers in sensitivity to multiculturalism and social pluralism. The Center's campus arm, Academic Response to Antisemitism and Racism in Europe (ARARE) held its annual experts seminar, under the auspices of UNESCO, in Venice, on "The Centennial of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion: A Paradigm for Contemporary Hate Literature" (8 December).

2004: The Center's French Association Verbe et Lumière established the application of lessons on the Holocaust in France and established a Joint Consultative Educational Committee with UNESCO (18 March). This association meets annually together with the awards ceremony at UNESCO for laureates on an essay competition held in French, Italian and Russian schools on aspects of the Holocaust, e.g. in 2004, "The Lessons for Contemporary Europe", in 2005, "The 60th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Death Camps", and in 2006, "The Nuremberg Tribunal as a Metaphor for Contemporary Justice". The Center's New York Tolerance Center (NYTC) was designated by the Rwandan Mission to serve as one of the sites for programming to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Rwandan genocide. The program included Rwandan and Holocaust survivors. The Center presented recommendations to the UNESCO World Forum on Human Rights in Nantes, France (18 May).

2005: The Center organized UNESCO's "60th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Death Camps" commemoration at Paris Headquarters, attended by the Director-General, Ambassadors, personnel and Holocaust survivors (31 January). Secretary-General Annan was one of the featured speakers at the memorial service for Simon Wiesenthal sponsored by the SWC.

2005-2006: NYTC hosted a number of foreign journalists as part of the UN Department of Public Information's Reham Al-Farra Memorial Journalists' Fellowship Programme. In 2006, General Assembly President Jan Eliasson addressed a group of NGO's and toured the NYTC.

iii. The NGO's Support for Millennium Development Goal 8: "Develop a global partnership for development" – "In cooperation with the private sector, to make available the benefit of new technologies – especially information and communication technologies"

2003: At the International Meeting of the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Geneva, the Center proposed inclusion of the mention of "incitement to hate and violence on the Internet...acknowledgement of this perilous abuse of cyberspace by hatemongers...and the call for appropriate measures to contain their impact on vulnerable – and principally young – targets" in the WSIS Draft Declaration and Program of Action (16 July). This issue was subsequently discussed in drafting WSIS documents that addressed cyber crime, ethics, privacy and/or the protection of children.

2004: The New York Tolerance Center, based upon the Center's larger Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles, was opened two blocks from UN Headquarters. It serves the metropolitan area of New York and has built strong relationships with the diplomatic corps and personnel of the United Nations. The Museum of Tolerance was awarded the 2004 Global Tolerance Award by the Friends of the United Nations. At a ceremony for this award at the UN Headquarters, New York, the President of the Friends of the United Nations praised the Museum of Tolerance "which effectively gives fuller scope and meaning to the United Nations Declaration of Principles on Tolerance and provides and institutional framework for learning...your Museum provides a head start in building a culture of peace and tolerance to which the United Nations has dedicated the present decade and to which Leaders at the Millennium Summit have committed themselves" (10 December).

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Note by the Secretary General

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1. Akina Mama wa Afrika

(General; 1999)

Introduction

The aims and purposes of the organization

Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMwA) is an African women's international non-governmental development organization based in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and in Africa, which coordinates networking, information, advocacy and training forums for African women, and builds their leadership capacities to influence policy and decision making at all levels. AMwA's outreach is done through: addressing issues that affect women in the United Kingdom and Africa, building the leadership capacities of African women and their organizations; providing space for African women to share their perspectives; networking and consulting on local, regional and international levels; marketing the skills, expertise and creativity of African women and mobilising and empowering African women on the continent and in the Diaspora. In 1997 AMwA established the African Women's Leadership Institute (AWLI), as part of the organization's contribution to the post-Beijing process. The AWLI has since become the flagship programme and it has enabled the organization to focus on 'raising the bar' by equipping African women to participate in the areas of leadership and decision making, as well as empowering them to have a voice in key issues and areas that affect them. It is a regional networking, information and training forum, which, not only seeks to enable women, aged between 25 and 45, achieve personal empowerment, but also develops their critical thinking on gender issues, women's rights and human rights, advocacy and policy-influencing, organizational and resource development and strategic planning.

Significant changes in the organization and its work

In 2003 AMwA held a review of its then existing strategic plan (1998-2003). This process was largely informed by the outcomes of both internal and external reviews and evaluations of the organization's programmes. Therefore, whereas AMwA's vision remained steady, the period 2003-2006 saw AMwA embark on the process of change, which involved the relocation of its head office from the United Kingdom to Uganda and the repositioning of the office in the United Kingdom, which had an impact on the mission and goals of the organization.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Work of the Economic and Social Council, its Subsidiary Bodies and Other Major Conferences and United Nations Meetings

2004

AMwA attended the Regional Consultative Meeting on Women hosted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in July. The purpose was to plan for the NGO forum of the 7th Regional Conference on Women. AMwA was on the financial working group that drew up the fundraising strategy and budget for the NGO forum. AMwA was also on drafting committee for the report of the consultative meeting. In October representatives of AMwA attended the 7th African

Regional Conference on Women. This was the Africa regional preparatory process for the Beijing + 10 global review. At the conference, AMwA facilitated the young women's leadership forum. The dialogue was to access the leadership needs of young women and make concrete recommendations for the NGO declaration. AMwA, alongside other women's organizations and other activists, pushed for the following on the declaration: states were called upon to respect and protect women's autonomy, bodily integrity and right to choice; a standing conference that is autonomous from the regional intergovernmental processes to assess the challenges facing the African Women's Movement; the ratification and implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights of Women in Africa by all Member States of the African Union. As the only African generated document setting out the framework for the interpretation and implementation of women's rights, and as one of the key post Beijing inputs by African governments, it is considerable importance.

2005

The 49th CSW undertook the global review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action (BDPA), 28th February -11th March 2005. AMwA pushed further with agenda for their region of reminding African governments on the continent of their commitment to ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, as a Major step forward in implementing the BDPA. AMwA also worked to ensure that the needs identified in the preparatory processes at the Africa regional level were fully reflected in the deliberations.

Cooperation with United Nations Bodies and/or Specialized Agencies

In 2003 AMwA organized a joint workshop with UNIFEM on Transformational Leadership in Nigeria in recognition of the fact that the impact of the organization's flagship programme, the African Women's Leadership Institute (AWLI), should be aimed at not only transforming the lives of individual women, but also those of their communities.

Initiatives undertaken in Support of Internationally Agreed Goals

2003

AMwA worked very hard, along with other women's organizations, to ensure that the Draft Protocol to the African Charter for Human and People's Rights on the rights of Women in Africa was ready for approval at the Heads of State Meeting at the 2nd Assembly of the African Union (AU) in Maputo, 4-12 July 2003. AMwA collected views from civil society organizations on the original draft document. Along with other women's organizations, AMwA lobbied governments and campaigned successfully to reopen discussions on the Protocol at the African Union. AMwA participated in a meeting organized by Equality Now in Addis Ababa to consolidate the various regional and national responses to the original document. The technical assistance and lobby document fed into much more improved government positions on the draft protocol in preparation for the Expert's Meeting at the AU. The results of these efforts culminated in the adoption by the Expert's Meeting of a much strengthened Draft Protocol, which was finally adopted in March at the Meeting of Experts and adopted by Heads of State at the AU Heads of State

Summit in Maputo, 11 July 2003. Since then AMwA has focused on lobbying member states to ratify the protocol.

2004

AMwA, which is a member of a regional coalition of 14 organizations (Solidarity for African Women Coalition) working towards the ratification of the Protocol to the African Charter for Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, attended a steering committee meeting of the coalition in September 2004. At the NGO forum, hosted by the Eastern African sub-regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women, AMwA was part of the drafting team for the final NGO declaration. AMwA, alongside other African women's organizations and activists, successfully advocated for the inclusion of Gender as a standing item on the agenda of the Ordinary Sessions of the Heads of States at the African Union. Thus, in July 2004, Heads of State made a commitment to report on their respective country's progress on addressing gender inequality. The Women, Gender and Development Directorate was tasked with formulating the reporting format. As part of this exercise, AMwA and other regional and national women's organizations were invited to input into drawing up an effective reporting and monitoring tool.

2005

AMwA joined over 40 other NGO's, the African Union Commission and African governments in Addis Ababa to discuss strategies for the domestication and implementation of the protocol in September. AMwA chaired a number of the sessions at the meeting.

In addition to these, AMwA continued to implement its flagship leadership training institutes (AWLI) for African women on the continent and in the United Kingdom. During this period 300 women were trained through regional, sub-regional and national AWLIs in the United Kingdom, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Sierra Leone.

2. Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas

(Special; 1999)

Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas (ACNU), with sixty years of uninterrupted work promoting the aims and principles of the United Nations, is member of World Federation of the United Nations (WFUNA); belongs to WFUNA Executive Committee, it is affiliated to the Department of Public Information (DPI); at present it is preparing to renew its membership with the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO). Our Association has the condition of Depository Library of United Nations Library "Dag Hammarskjold".

Our institutional life has followed an upward trend of its professional activity and has consolidated the links with a wider sector of the civil society. This has been a period of arduous and fruitful work, not only for the realization of the tasks programmed in the Plans approved in the General Assemblies of Associates but also for the achievement of a more precise definition and a closer approach to our work

lines, as well as a bigger cohesion in the work of the Commissions and the specialized groups for the attention to specific topics.

Our membership and its participation in all the activities was increased. We have tightened our bonds with similar Associations in the region and with the Executive Committee of the World Federation of the United Nations (WFUNA) since our incorporation to this Committee during the 37th Plenary Assembly held in Barcelona, Spain, in 2003.

Of great importance was the inauguration of our Website, a tool of unquestionable major significance to extend our presence with a more heterogeneous public, to broadcast our position and work in defence of the norms of International Law and the United Nations Charter.

The performance of the work groups for desertification, climate change and environment was commendable and redounded in the achievement of a better knowledge of the International Conventions subscribed by Cuba.

We highlight the labour of the Working Group constituted to evaluate the amendments proposed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the United Nations Management Reform, as well as the participation of our Association, on behalf of the 26 Cuban Non-Governmental Organizations, in the Hearing, summoned by the President of the General Assembly to analyse these amendments.

Year 2004 was proclaimed by United Nations "Year of commemoration of fight against slavery and its abolition", and our Association, and a work team of noted organizations of Cuban national culture, carried out an intense plan of activities in remembrance of the Bicentennial of the Haitian Revolution and the 150th anniversary of the birth of the renowned Cuban patriot Juan Gualberto Gómez.

International Seminars

- Development and a World Without Hunger: challenges of the XXI Century, 18-21 February 2003.
- The World in the XXI Century: challenges and hopes, 11-14 May 2004.
- World Population in the XXI Century: dilemmas and developments. (Cosponsored by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), among other institutions), 17-19 May 2006.

International activities

- Participation in 185th, 186th, 188th, 189th, 190th, and 191th Executive Committees. It was not possible to attend the 187th and 192th Executive Committees due to difficulties with the visa.
- Participation in the Civil Society General Assembly hearings that took place in New York, June 2005.
- Participation in Guatemala at the meeting for launching of Network of the Thematic Program on Agroforesteria of the Convention to Combat Desertification, 5 November 2004.
- Participation in the regional meeting of the (World Summit on the Information Society) WSIS at Rio de Janeiro, 6-11 June, 2005.

- Participation in the International Conference "Civil Society and Desertification", Montpellier, France. The organizers extended invitation to our Association, which was represented by the specialist in charge of this theme, 21-23 September 2006

Activities in observance of Special Days

- Constitution of a Commission to promote activities to observe the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, 18 April 2006.
- Act to commemorate the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, 26 June 2006
- Contest to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the United Nations, September 2004
- In commemoration of the 61st United Nations Anniversary, a conference "Cuba and the Organization of United Nations: 61 years of fruitful relationship", and panel integrated by Mr. Francisco Arias Millas, Representative of World Food Program in Cuba, Dr. Dagmar González, of Ministry for the Foreign Investment and the Collaboration, and other outstanding personalities, 19 October 2006
- Act at Memorial "José Martí" to commemorate United Nations Day, with the participation of the President of the Cuban Parliament, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and other outstanding personalities of the Cuban Government, representatives of United Nations Agencies accredited in Cuba, and the diplomatic body, 21 October 2004.
- Cultural finery at the National Theatre in occasion of the Year of the United Nations, with the participation of outstanding Cuban personalities and institutions of the artistic and cultural scope, 20 October 2004.

Other activities

- Annually we participate in the award-giving ceremonies of PMA EN ACCION (World Food Programme in Action), children plastic arts contest in connection with the World Food Programme in Cuba and Cuban culture halls. In these activities participated outstanding officials of the World Food Programme, and personalities of Cuban institutions.
- VIII, IX, X, and XI Models of the United Nations (HAVMUN 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006), activities that had an ample repercussion for their quality and that counted with the participation of professors and students from Mexican and Cuban Universities. Members of United Nations Association of Dominican Republic participated in HAVMUN 2005.
- Celebration in Havana of the Sixth Session of Conference of the Parties (COP6), particularly the Segment of NGOs participating in the works of the Convention, an event that demanded of us the accomplishment of important organizational efforts, 25 August-5 September 2003.
- Yearly encounters of the Cuban NGOs with the Diplomatic Body to inform about the work of these organizations. In these events participated NGOs and representatives of diplomatic missions accredited in Cuba.

- Receptions on occasion of the 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th and 60th anniversaries of ACNU, with participation of representatives of United Nations Agencies accredited in Cuba, members of diplomatic corps, and Cuban outstanding personalities of the cultural, artistic, and press scope.

- Mrs. Susan McDade, new representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Cuba joined ACNU. This encounter allowed us to strengthen the relationship with the United Nations Program for the Development in our country, 21 November 2006.

- Press conference of Mrs. Mirtha Kaulard and Francisco Arias Millas, Representatives in Cuba of United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), respectively, to inform about the programs and projects of collaboration of these and other agencies members of the commission to commemorate the World Food Day, 13 October 2005 .

- Our Documentation Centre edited an Annual Bibliographic Bulletin dedicated to the 60th Anniversary of United Nations, and maintains a fluid exchange with the Centre of Information of United Nations for Mexico, Cuba, and Dominican Republic (CINU).

This is only brief summary information, of some of the numerous activities carried out by ACNU since the last quadrennial report.

3. Human Rights Defence Centre

(Special; 2003)

Part I. Introduction

The Human Rights Defence Centre (KEPAD) was established in 1998, with its seat in Athens. According to its Statute, the organization aims at promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms in Greece, the Balkans, the Mediterranean and other regions. Its main course of action includes provision of practical knowledge on human rights, raising awareness, training and mobilization for the improvement of the situation of human rights, as well as assistance and protection to persons belonging to vulnerable social groups, including trafficking victims. The amount of funding received has increased through donations of works of art by artists and exhibitions organized for the support of the organization's work. The annual sale of donated artwork since 2003 has been an important source of funding.

Expanded Areas of Activities: While the broad aims and objectives of the organization and its activities remain much as described in the submission of 15 May 2002, KEPAD has expanded their range in countries of Southeast and Eastern Europe. It has strengthened significantly its cooperation with other NGOs in that region and its scope of operations has grown from national to regional/international, in particular with the establishment of the *ARIADNE Network against Human Trafficking in Southeast and Eastern Europe*, on the initiative of KEPAD.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its Subsidiary Bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

KEPAD organized a ***parallel NGO meeting/side event*** in the framework of the 50th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) on the topic *Regional Cooperation for Countering Trafficking in Women and Girls* (New York, 2 March 2006), in cooperation with the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations and the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The importance of regional cooperation was discussed and proposals were made in the context of the work of *ARIADNE Network*. Statements were delivered by the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, the Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the president of KEPAD, the Chief of the mission in Greece office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the vice-president of the NGO *International Women's Centre La Strada-Ukraine*. A member of KEPAD also participated in the 50th Session of the CSW (New York, 27 February-10 March 2006).

ii) Initiatives of organization undertaken in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, Millennium Development Goals

Along with 21 other Greek NGOs, KEPAD participated in the event *UN Millennium Goals and the Civil Society* resulting in the drafting of the *Declaration regarding the mid-term review of the eight Millennium Development Goals* (Athens, 7 June 2005), which was circulated among members of the Economic and Social Commission and submitted to the United Nations Secretary-General in June 2005 (E/2005/NGO/28).

iii) Activities in Support of Global Principles

International Human Rights Day was observed in 2003 by KEPAD with an event entitled *Celebration of International Human Rights Day* organized under the auspices of the Municipality of Athens, in which a painting, specially created for human rights by a famous Greek painter, was presented and donated for the support of the organization's work. Speakers included scholars, academics and NGO representatives; there was an impressive turnout of people.

The *Annual Olympia Human Rights Programme*, organized by KEPAD since 2000, continues to take place. Organized with the cooperation of the Council of Europe and other international and regional organizations, it aims at providing practical knowledge on human rights and at developing regional cooperation for joint action with other NGOs in the Balkan region. This annual event addresses young people such as university students, NGO representatives, journalists and young professionals.

The *4th Annual Olympia Human Rights Programme* was held on the topic of *Migrants and Refugees* (Nafplion, Greece, 1-8 September 2003) with 35 young people participating from the Balkan region. Speakers included representatives from the Council of Europe, the United Nations, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and IOM. The proceedings of the programme were published in a book of 289 pages *Olympia IV: Human Rights in the 21st Century: Migrants and Refugees* (Ant. Sakkoulas Publishers, 2004).

The *5th Annual Olympia Human Rights Programme* focused on *Trafficking in Human Beings in SE and E. Europe* (Athens, 22-25 October 2004) and took the form of a workshop-roundtable. The aim was to examine the situation of human trafficking in the region and discuss the proposal of KEPAD to establish a regional network against human trafficking at NGO level. The meeting was attended by experts of 18 NGOs from 12 countries of the region, representatives of IOM and the UNHCR and observers from foreign embassies and Greek ministries. It concluded that a regional NGO network should be established for joint action against human trafficking in the region.

The *6th Annual Olympia Human Rights Programme* was a follow-up to the 5th Programme, on *Regional Network against Human Trafficking* (Athens, 7-9 June 2005) with the participation of 18 NGOs from 12 countries and observers from Greek ministries and foreign Embassies. The workshop marked the official establishment of the *ARIADNE Network against Human Trafficking in SE and E. Europe*, by the adoption of its Statute and the creation of its website (www.ariadnet.net). The mission of the network is to develop close and coordinated cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination, initiate tripartite cooperation among NGOs, state agents and international organizations and unite forces for combating the phenomenon in the region. The members of the ARIADNE Network are 17 NGOs from 12 countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Kosovo (Serbia), Turkey and Ukraine). KEPAD was designated as Network Coordinator.

After the official establishment of the *ARIADNE Network*, the members implemented their first joint project *Registration of the Actual Situation of Human Trafficking* in all the member/countries. National reports were drafted on the basis of comprehensive research conducted by experts from the NGO/members, with the cooperation of state agents, international organizations and other NGOs and included information on the legal framework, gaps, deficiencies and problems in combating the phenomenon, as well as best practices, needs assessments and recommendations for the improvement of the situation. Two workshops were held in support of the implementation of this project (Thessaloniki, Greece, 14-16 June 2006 and Tirana, 22-24 November 2006) with the participation of network members to evaluate the progress of the project and discuss cooperation issues. The project resulted in 14 publications: one in English *Combating Human Trafficking: Problems and Prospects* (272 pages - Ant. N. Sakkoulas Publishers, Athens 2007) and 13 publications (250-300 pages each) in the local languages of the members (12 countries plus Kosovo). The second joint project of the ARIADNE Network, currently underway, was launched in 2006 at the Tirana Workshop in November 2006 and aims at following up on the registration of the situation (publications), by adopting an *integrated plan of action* and by launching new joint projects on priorities identified by the partners of the Network.

KEPAD is one of the founding members of the ASPIDDA (Developmental Partnership to Promote Equal Rights for Trafficked Persons) Project, established in June 2005 in Athens, which was formed in the framework of the European Community Initiative entitled *EQUAL*, aiming at combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination in the labour market. KEPAD, together with another 12 Greek NGOs participates actively in the Action Plan entitled *ILAEIRA*, a national and international cross border operational and inter-service plan launched in 2006 and

implemented by the Greek Police, the European Union and 22 countries from Europe against human trafficking with the aim of developing and coordinating simultaneous actions in all participating countries.

KEPAD participates regularly in the Special Greek Inter-Ministerial Committee against human trafficking, responsible for the implementation of the *National Plan of Action* (Law 3064/2002); the Secretary-Generals of eight competent ministries and representatives of 18 NGOs participate in these meetings. KEPAD organized a conference entitled *International Criminal Court* in cooperation with Amnesty International and the Athens Bar Association (Athens, 6 May 2004). Speakers included academics and scholars from the University of Athens.

The Secretary-General of KEPAD participated in a roundtable, organized by the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) (Athens, 18 November 2004). ECRI's report on Greece was discussed by experts on racism and xenophobia with the aim of improving the situation in Greece in this field.

In 2004 KEPAD was nominated by the Hellenic National Commission for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as a candidate for the 2004 *UNESCO Prize for Human Rights Education*.

4. Japan Fellowship of Reconciliation

(Special; 1999)

PART 1. Introduction

i. The aims and purposes of the organization

Japan Fellowship of Reconciliation (JFOR) Nihon Yuwa-kai aims at realizing peace in the world through non-violent methods. JFOR sponsors discussion meetings on peace-keeping topics and holds monthly peace-making lectures in various cities in Japan. In addition, JFOR holds annual assembly meetings in various parts of the country and sends delegates to conferences held by other bodies. JFOR cooperates with the National Christian Council in Japan (NCC) and others and works towards peace through various non-violent actions.

ii. Changes that have had a significant impact on the organization

The constitution originally submitted to the United Nations stated that JFOR would limit its formal membership qualification to Christians and only grant non-Christians a status as a friend of the Association. At the 2005 General Assembly Meeting, it was amended to allow non-Christians full membership. In accordance with this amended provision, there shall no longer be any distinction between Christians and non-Christians as members.

PART II. Contributions made by the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

1. Contributions as regards the issue of wartime military sexual slavery

JFOR sent representatives headed by its main Geneva representative to the United Nations Prof. Etsuro Totsuka, to the United Nations human rights meetings, such as the 55th and 58th Sessions of the Sub-Commission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (28 July-15 August 2003; 26 July-13 August 2004, 25 July-12 August 2005 and 7-25 August 2006).

One of the major contributions of JFOR to the Sub-Commission was the submission of new information concerning wartime military sexual slavery by Japan, so-called "comfort women". JFOR, in cooperation with other concerned NGOs, made oral interventions and submitted written statements (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/NGO/46; E/CN.4/Sub.2/2004/NGO/28; and E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/NGO/35) to the Sub-Commission, which has been responding to JFOR's recommendations by adopting resolutions on "Systematic Rape, Sexual Slavery and Slavery-like Practices".

JFOR is happy to add that young Japanese women contributed to the Sub-Commission. For example, in 2004, Ms. Yuriko Yabu, a student of Ryukoku University, representing JFOR, made an oral intervention in regards to the Administration of Justice on 11 August 2004. In it, she pointed out that insufficient reflection of war responsibilities by many large Japanese organizations resulted in continuation of the prewar attitude possessed by the Japanese leading politicians (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2004/SR.21, paragraphs 88-90).

2. Contributions as regards the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

JFOR has been working hard and lobbied at the United Nations with the view that achieving Japan's ratification of the First Optional Protocol to the ICCPR would much improve the human rights situation in Japan.

At the occasions of the Sub-Commission meetings in 2003 and 2004, JFOR cooperated with the several lawyers from the Osaka Bar Association, who represented the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA) and visited with them the responsible human rights officers of the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). JFOR and JFBA submitted the OHCHR the information as regards the human rights situation, in particular administration of Justice and regretted that the Supreme Court of Japan had been inactive in implementation of international human rights law such as the ICCPR and that both NGOs strongly recommended the OHCHR to advise the Japanese Government to ratify the First Optional Protocol of the ICCPR as a matter of priority.

In 2004, there was a remarkable breakthrough for JFOR's lobbying that had continued for five years. JFOR's main Geneva representative to the United Nations, Professor Etsuro Totsuka, succeeded in securing an opportunity to personally meet with Ms. Louis Arbour, the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the 2 August 2004. At that occasion, he was representing Mr. Tsutomu Hata, Japan's former Prime Minister, Member of the House of Representatives, the President of the

Japanese Diet Members' Association for Cooperation with the Human Rights Activities of the United Nations and wished to submit Ms. Arbour a letter from Mr. Hata, in which he invited her to Japan. Exploiting this opportunity, Prof. Totsuka took several JFBA representatives to her office upon her permission. Thus, both NGOs finally succeeded in personally meeting with the High Commissioner herself and were able to submit the information concerning the situation of domestic implementation on the ICCPR in Japan.

This successful lobbying resulted in Ms. Arbour's formal visit to Japan from 7 to 11 November 2004.

3. Contribution towards childcare services for the Geneva United Nations Office

On the basis of the advice from Prof. Totsuka, Ms. Yoshiko Burke, President of Mikage International preschool in Kobe, and a few students from Ryukoku University representing JFOR, worked at lobbying for the creation of childcare services for the Geneva United Nations Office, when they joined the sub-Commission meetings in 2004, 2005 and 2006. In order to support these activities, the Women Committee of JFOR organized the fundraising campaigns to cover substantial parts of the travel expenses of those who participated in the Sub-Commission meetings.

In 2004, Ms. Akiko Kuwabara, a Ryukoku University student and Ms. Burke made a research by interviewing many participants at the Geneva United Nations Offices during the Sub-Commission session as regards the need for the childcare for the Geneva United Nations Office. In 2005, the result of her research was published in her paper in Japanese (Hogaku-Ronsyu: Gakusei-Ronsyu, published by Ryukoku University, Vol. 34, March 2005, pp. 599-613) and reported to the Sub-Commission by Ms. Burke. Ms. Burke made oral interventions representing JFOR at the Sub-Commission meetings on 8 August 2005 and 16 August 2006 and urged the United Nations and the concerned governments to consider the creation of childcare services at the Geneva Office citing the research result made by Ms. Kwabara. This drew much attention to the participants and was published by many local newspapers in Japan.

4. Contribution for other matters including the reform of the United Nations

In 2003, JFOR submitted a written statement on "Arbitrary Detention and other Situations surrounding Asylum Seekers in Japan" (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/NGO/45) drafted by the late Mr. Toshio Kaneko, a lecturer of Kobe Gakuin University. Ms. Yuki Nakai, a student of Ryukoku University, representing JFOR, made an oral intervention as regards Prevention of Discrimination on 12 August 2003. In it, she urged the Japanese Government to discharge two detainees in an Alien Detention Center, Mr. YANAGI Takeo and Mr. LI Pon, students of universities in Japan (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/SR.19, paragraphs 20-21). JFOR is happy to report that both of them were consequently discharged.

JFOR, as regards the reform of the United Nations Human Rights system, submitted some proposals, Prof. Totsuka made an oral intervention at the last Sub-Commission on the future role of experts on 11 August 2006.

5. Participation in the other United Nations meetings

Some women members of JFOR participated in the 50th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York, 3-14 March 2003, 47th Session 1-12 March 2004, 28 February-11 March 2005 and 27 February-10 March 2006.

5. Ukrainian World Congress

(Special; 2003)

PART I. Introduction

i. The aims and purposes of the organization are to establish and maintain an international network of member organizations who have an interest in supporting and promoting Ukrainian nationality, spirit, language, culture and achievements of Ukrainians throughout the world, to coordinate the activities of member organizations, to promote the civic development of Ukrainians in countries of their settlement for the purpose of strengthening their commitment towards democracy and freedom for all nations in the world, to uphold the rights of every Ukrainian person based on the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and to intervene with governments and/or non-governmental institutions to protect the rights of Ukrainians throughout the world.

Its main course of action is to provide avenues of communication for some 20 million ethnic Ukrainians who reside outside Ukraine. Officers of the UWC regularly visit various communities from North and South America, Europe, to the far reaches of the Russian Federation and Australia. The organization organizes conferences on scholarly and educational topics, human and civil rights issues, democracy and state building. Additionally, the organization attempts to provide social services, medical and humanitarian aid to Ukrainian and sometimes non-Ukrainian communities throughout the world, including Ukraine, to coordinate activities of youth and educational Ukrainian institutions and works with the International Olympic Committee as well as the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine in arranging services for athletic training, etc.

ii. While its broad aims and objectives, as well as the nature of its activities, remain much as described in the submission of 30 May 2001, the UWC has expanded their range into Africa, specifically, Mozambique.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In April 2003, the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) was formally accepted in consultative status as a non-governmental organization with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Since that time to date, the UWC has designated and functioned through the maximum allowable representatives to the United Nations office in New York and one or two representatives to the office in Vienna.

On 26 April 2003, and each year thereafter, the UWC's United Nations representatives have assisted the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations in organizing a Chernobyl anniversary related bazaar at the United Nations, the proceeds of which are used to help the Chernobyl victims.

On 19 September 2003, the UWC United Nations representatives met with Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and his assistants to discuss issues of mutual concern, in particular, the upcoming commemoration of Ukraine's Great Famine 1932-33 at the United Nations and to develop lines of communication for the long term. The following specific areas of activity at the United Nations in particular, through the Economic and Social Council and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) were addressed: migrant workers, slave trafficking, Chernobyl, AIDS and assistance to orphanages.

On 10 November 2003, in connection with the 70th anniversary of the Great Famine 1932-33, the UWC together with another Ukrainian ethnic NGO at the United Nations, the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations extended compliments to the Secretary General of the United Nations with reference to agenda item 179b of the Third Committee of the 59th session of the United Nations General Assembly, submitted and disseminated a Statement at the United Nations offices in New York on the Great Famine 1932-33. The Statement read in part as follows:

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the enforced famine of 1932-33, engineered by the Soviet regime in which 7-10 million Ukrainians perished. The sheer numbers alone would qualify this entry as the world's most massive genocide. We honour the millions of victims of this most heinous mass crime ever committed by man against man. Historians conclude that no nation lost more than the Ukrainian during the XX century. Together the famines, purges, persecutions and wars resulted in over twenty million lives lost...

On April 14, 2000 at a meeting of the United Nations Security Council on the situation concerning Rwanda, Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations stated: "For Ukraine genocide is not just a term. We experienced difficult times in our own history; this century alone witnessed an unspeakable tragedy, when more than 7 million people were exterminated within two years by a well-planned famine. These events took place in a country once called the breadbasket of Europe."

On September 24, 2003 at the general debate of the 58th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ukraine's President urged: "70 years ago the totalitarian Soviet regime engineered an artificial famine in Ukraine, which claimed the lives of 7 to 10 million of our compatriots. Unfortunately, back in 1933 the world did not respond to our tragedy. The international community believed the cynical propaganda of the Soviet Union, which was selling bread abroad while in Ukraine the hunger was killing 17 people a-minute. From this podium, I would like to call upon all of you to pay tribute to the memory of those who perished."

This year the parliament of Ukraine adopted a statement on the 70th anniversary of the Famine honouring the victims and identifying that heinous act as genocide. The legislatures of Argentina, Australia, Canada and the United States of America passed similar resolutions. Others are pending.

Therefore, based on the foregoing, we call upon the governments of the world community of nations and UN non-governmental organizations to recognize the 1932-33 famine in Ukraine as genocide against the Ukrainian people and to remember the 7-10 million innocents who perished.

On 5 March 2004, the UWC issued and disseminated a Statement on global human trafficking to the Forty-eighth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, 1-12 March 2004. The UWC made the following findings:

- Ukrainian women are the largest group trafficked in Turkey;

- Ukrainian women are the second largest group outside United States military bases in the Republic of Korea;

- Women from CIS countries comprise 70 per cent of trafficking in Israel;

- Ukrainian women constitute the largest foreign group trafficked in the Netherlands;

- 70 percent of Ukrainian women in Poland were trafficked;

- Women from Central, East Europe and CIS countries constitute 80 percent of trafficking in Germany. Other large markets for the slave trade in Ukrainians include: Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Spain, Yugoslavia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Czech Republic, Croatia, United Arab Emirates, Syrian Arab Republic, China, Canada and Japan.

The UWC made the following recommendations to the countries of the United Nations:

- Marshal the political will to combat trafficking;

- Undertake prevention and awareness campaigns;

- Encourage and support the activities of non-governmental organizations;

- Promulgate national legislation to punish traffickers and their facilitators;

- Prioritize law enforcement efforts to arrest and convict traffickers;

- Provide humanitarian services to victims and assist in their reintegration into society;

- Ratify and implement the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish the Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children;

- Develop international, regional and bilateral cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination;

- Accord special focus on the new front for traffickers in Central and East Europe.

In July 2004, the UWC President travelled to Vienna where he met with representatives of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to International Organizations in Vienna, representatives from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Anti-Human Trafficking Unit and the Special Representative on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

On 8-10 September 2004, UWC United Nations representatives participated in the 57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action.

On 18 January 2005, the UWC President met with the deputy administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, Kalman Mizsei. UWC United Nations

representatives studied the Blue Ribbon Commission report for Ukraine and complements were forwarded to Mr. Mizsei on 14 February 2005.

In January 2006, a UWC United Nations representative participated in a meeting at the United Nations in New York on the issue of slave trafficking in New York.

In March 2006 that UWC United Nations representative travelled to Ukraine where she met with representatives from the Centre for Ukrainian Education Reform, which deals with the issue of slave trafficking. She also met with representatives of the local IOM office in Ukraine to whom she delivered a copy of The Natashas, a book on slave trafficking written by Canadian journalist Victor Malarek, which was translated into Ukrainian for dissemination and funded in part by the UWC. Additionally, she travelled throughout Ukraine, meeting with several local organizations dealing with this issue.

In March 2006, the UWC President travelled to Rome, Venice and Naples, Italy meeting with large communities of Ukrainian migrants to discuss migration and slave trafficking issues. In Venice the UWC President met with IOM local representatives to discuss these issues as well.

On 28 April 2006, UWC United Nations representatives participated in a session of the United Nations General Assembly dedicated to the 20th anniversary of Chernobyl.